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RECENT IMMIGRANTS IN METROPOLITAN AREAS

STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND REVIEW

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Recent Immigrants in the Toronto Metropolitan Area

A Comparative Portrait Based on the 1996 Census

May 2000

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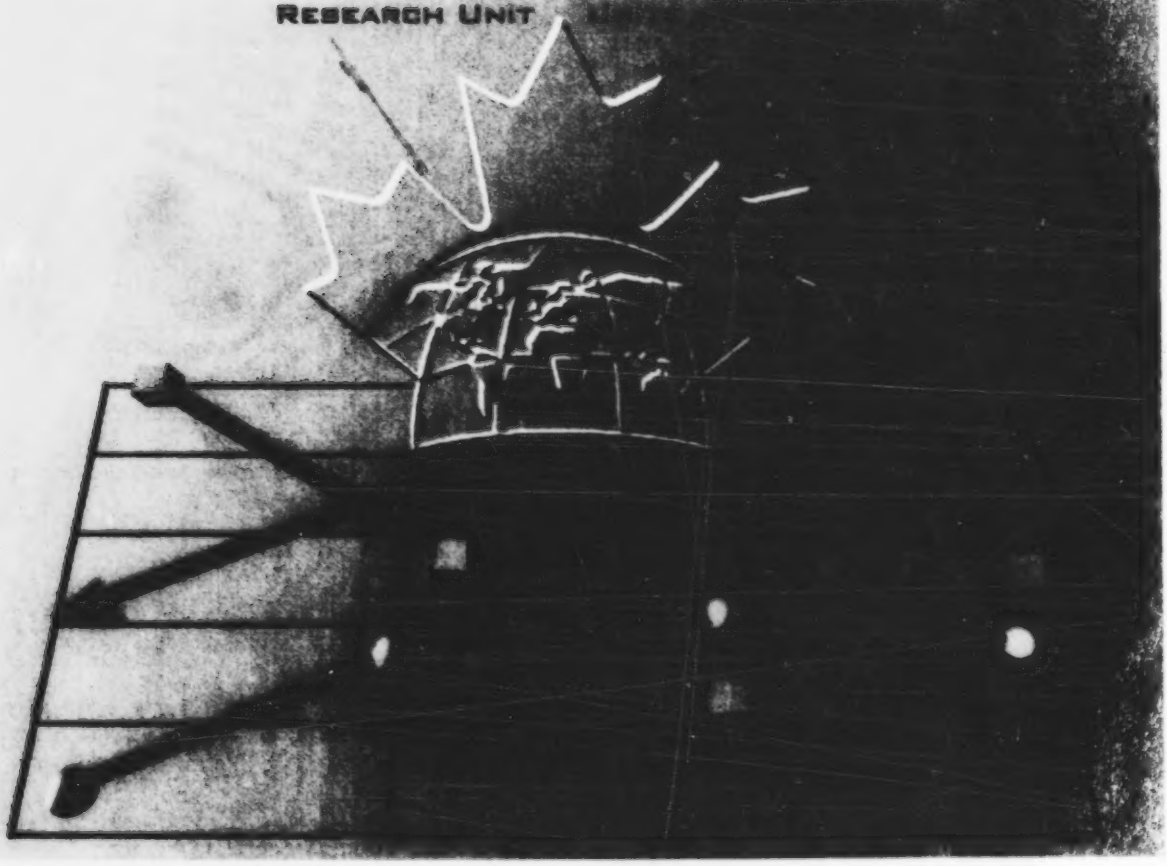

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RECENT IMMIGRANTS IN THE TORONTO METROPOLITAN AREA

A COMPARATIVE PORTRAIT BASED ON THE 1996 CENSUS

Prepared by
INFORMETRICA LIMITED

For
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

May 2000

The opinions and interpretations expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Citizenship and Immigration Canada

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FOREWORD

This document presents a portrait of recent immigrants – persons who immigrated ("landed") after 1980 - living in the Toronto area at the time of the 1996 census of population. It provides information, derived from the census, on the origin and background of immigrants, on family and household structure, on participation in the economy, on income and housing.

To assist the reader in interpreting the characteristics and circumstances of recent immigrants, comparisons are made throughout this document with earlier immigrants - those who arrived before 1981 - and with persons born in Canada. As well, recent immigrants have been subdivided into two groups: those who arrived in the 1980s and those who arrived in the first half of the nineties. The last group is variously called "most recent immigrants" or "very recent immigrants". Grouping immigrants by period of landing is helpful when considering the adjustment of new immigrants to Canadian society and the economy, which takes time.

Canada's immigration policy has various objectives: meeting labour market needs, family reunification, humanitarian goals. Policies have changed over time, and so has the background of new immigrants. As the categories through which immigrants are admitted are not identified in the census, this report does not relate the experience of immigrants to their immigration category. However, Canada's immigration policies, along with conditions in countries of origin and in Canada, have an impact on the background and circumstances of recent immigrants as documented in this report.

The report also presents data on earlier immigrants. This is intended not so much as a second portrait, but rather as an indication of the likely future circumstances of recent immigrants. There is no guarantee, of course, that recent immigrants will assume the same place in Canada's society and economy as have earlier generations of immigrants. There have been changes in the characteristics of immigrants over time. The Canadian population, society and economy have evolved as well. This portrait, however, indicates there is also a good deal of continuity in the characteristics of immigrants, and it shows that recent immigrants are making a place for themselves in this country. There are strong indications that the relative economic conditions of recent immigrants will improve with time after their arrival in Canada, for instance.

This portrait of recent immigrants living in the Toronto area is one of a series of 13 portraits for major urban centres where the overwhelming majority of recent immigrants live. Each of the 13 profiles highlights a census metropolitan area (CMA; for a definition see the second text box on the next page). The CMAs or major urban agglomerations are: Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Ottawa, Quebec City and Halifax. Also available is a profile of recent immigrants in Canada. This profile covers the same material as the profiles for urban centres. It also provides comparisons between five geographic areas (Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, the ten other cities combined, and the rest of Canada).

This comparative portrait of recent immigrants in Toronto was prepared by Informetrica Limited and is published by Citizenship and Immigration Canada to inform the Canadian public, in particular persons and organisations with an interest in immigrants, including officials of provincial, regional and local governments, and organisations providing services to immigrants.

In this document, text boxes provide information of a technical nature about the topics covered, such as definitions of concepts used and notes to tables and charts. Here are some general points that may assist the reader:

Highlights are presented before the main report. The Highlights section is divided into six parts like the report itself.

Headings of topics summarise the thrust of the information presented, in telegram style. Thus, a quick impression of the characteristics and circumstances of recent immigrants can be gleaned from the table of contents. In the style used in the headings, all comparative statements refer to recent immigrants and the Canadian-born. Thus, "Fewer children among recent immigrants" means that children under 15 years of age make up a smaller proportion of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born.

The text describes and comments on the data displayed in figures and tables. The text does not always quote the precise numbers in the tables, but states them in an approximate or rounded manner. For instance, "41%" may be described as "two-fifths" or "two out of five". As well, whereas tables and figures display information for two groups - immigrants who landed in the 1980s and those who landed during 1991-1996 - the text often refers to these jointly as "recent immigrants".

Numbers of people are rounded to the nearest 100 or 1000, and as a rule no decimals are shown for percentages. Shares may not add to 100 per cent because of rounding.

Readers should be aware that there may be many reasons behind the differences featured in any display in this document: the background of immigrants, the experience of immigration, Canada's immigration policy, etc. One important source of difference is age structure. There are more adults aged 25 to 44 and fewer children among recent immigrants than the Canadian-born, and earlier immigrants on average are considerably older than recent immigrants or the Canadian-born. Age structure is examined in this portrait, and where differences in age are important, information is provided separately for age groups. However, readers are advised that differences in age can be a significant factor even when age is not explicitly addressed.

A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of a large urban core with a population of at least 100,000 together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core.

In 1996, the Toronto CMA included the following municipalities: Toronto, Pickering, Ajax, Uxbridge, Vaughan, Markham, Richmond Hill, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Aurora, Newmarket, King, East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Scarborough, East York, North York, York, Etobicoke, Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon, Mono, Orangeville, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, New Tecumseth, and Bradford West Gwillimbury. Throughout this profile, the Toronto CMA, with all of its component municipalities, is referred to simply as Toronto.

The population data presented in this report do not include non-permanent residents. In 1996 for the first time, Statistics Canada included non-permanent residents in the population. There were 167,000 non-permanent residents in Canada in 1996, bringing the official population count to 28,528,000 instead of the 28,361,000 shown here.

HIGHLIGHTS

This portrait describes recent immigrants in the Toronto metropolitan area ("Toronto" for short) as of 1996. "Recent immigrants" are immigrants who landed during the period 1981-1996. Immigrants who landed during 1991 to 1996 are called "very recent" or "most recent immigrants".

The background, personal attributes and outcomes of immigrants reflect Canada's immigration policies, and the choices immigrants make as to where to live in Canada.

Labour market behaviour, the jobs of recent immigrants, and their income and housing conditions describe the adjustment of immigrants to the economy. This process clearly takes time. Many immigrants do not immediately access long-term jobs that match their formal education, and the initial years are marked by relatively low income, large households and crowded housing. As their stay lengthens, however, they more or less catch up to those who were here before, although some differences remain.

Immigrants and recent immigrants (Part A)

- The Toronto metropolitan area is by far Canada's premier urban centre for recent immigrants. In 1996 there were 878,000 recent immigrants in Toronto, over 40 per cent of all recent immigrants living in Canada, accounting for one half of immigrants in Toronto and one fifth of the population of the metropolitan area.

- Four out of five immigrants who landed during the 1980s had become Canadian citizens by 1996.

Who are the recent immigrants (Part B):

- Recent immigrants come from all over the world. While Asian origins are dominant among immigrants who landed after 1990, the share of Hong Kong, the largest source country, is only 11 per cent.

- Over forty per cent of recent immigrants destined to Toronto entered through the family class. The share who entered through the economic class is almost as large. Refugees made up slightly more than ten per cent of those who landed during 1981-1996.

- One half of recent immigrants are 25 to 44 years of age, and 15 per cent are children under 15. Of Toronto's Canadian-born population, these groups each make up close to one-third.

- Six out of seven persons who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 reported being able to conduct a conversation in English or French. The proportion declines with age: it is 95 per cent in the 15 to 24 age group, and less than one half for seniors.

- For two-thirds of the most recent immigrants the language most often spoken at home is neither English nor French, but a foreign language.

- The level of education of recent immigrants in Toronto is slightly lower than that of the Canadian-born. (The Canadian-born in Toronto have a higher education than Canadians generally). Even so, recent immigrants contribute disproportionately to the number of physical scientists and engineers. Adults pursue studies at a high rate.

Families and households (Part C)

- Very few recent immigrants, including seniors, live alone. About one in five of those living with relatives live in an extended-family arrangement, twice the rate among the Canadian-born.

- Recent immigrant families are more likely than Canadian-born families to include never-married children, and this at a later stage in the life of the parents. Recent immigrant families are also somewhat larger than Canadian-born families.

- Households consisting of recent immigrants with or without other Canadians make up one quarter (24%) of all households in Toronto. Households of immigrants who landed during the 1990s account for somewhat more than one-half of these recent immigrant households and 12 per cent of all households.

- Family households larger than a nuclear family are rather common among recent immigrants. One in four households of recent immigrants, and only one in sixteen households in which all adult members are Canadian-born are of this type. Households of recent immigrants are significantly larger than Canadian-born households.

Participation in the economy (Part D)

- The adjustment of immigrants to the economy takes time. Immigrants who landed during the 1990s have a lower rate of participation in the labour force, a higher unemployment rate, and jobs requiring a lower level of skill than the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. Those who immigrated during the 1980s occupy a middle position.

- The fact that labour market and job skill level statistics of persons who immigrated before the 1980s closely resemble those of the Canadian-born suggests that the large majority of recent immigrants will in time fully adjust to and participate in the economy.

- The pattern of initially low labour force participation and high unemployment followed by convergence to the rates of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants occurs across all age-gender groups and all but the lowest level of education. The disparities between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born are much smaller for men than for women.

- Lack of knowledge of English is a major barrier to labour force participation. However, it accounts for only a small part of the disparity in labour force participation of the most recent immigrants, and its significance diminishes over time as immigrants learn English.

- Employment of recent immigrants tends to be much more than that of the Canadian-born in processing and sales and services occupations, and in the manufacturing and hospitality and

other services sectors. Administrative and management and social occupations, and construction and transportation, business services and the public sector account for smaller shares of the jobs of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born. The jobs of the most recent immigrants require a relatively low level of skill.

Income (Part E)

- On average among persons reporting income for the year 1995, the income of the most recent immigrants is somewhat less than one-half of that of the Canadian-born, while those who immigrated during the 1980s have two-thirds of that level. The proportion of recent immigrants having employment income and especially having other private income such as investment and pension income is lower than the proportion of Canadian-born with such income.

- Transfers from government make up a larger share of the income of recent immigrant households than of Canadian-born households for ages up to 65. For households of seniors, the share of transfers is lower for recent immigrants than for the Canadian-born.

- Over time, the average income of immigrants increases. While one-half of the most recent immigrants have no income or income under $10,000, less than one-quarter of earlier immigrants do. Similarly, recent immigrant households are also found in larger proportion in lower income ranges. However, overtime the average level and size distribution of income of immigrant households become very similar to that of Canadian-born households.

- Four in ten very recent immigrants experience low income, i.e., they live in families with income of less than one-half of median family income, or, if they do not live in a family, have income of less than one-half of the median income of unattached individuals. The proportion drops significantly with increases in length of stay, but, in every age group, remains above that of the Canadian-born even for immigrants who landed before 1981.

Housing (Part F)

- Crowded accommodation is rather common among recent immigrants. One-third of recent immigrant households live in crowded conditions – i.e. have one person or more per room - compared to 4 per cent of Canadian-born households. Almost one-half of households consisting only of most recent immigrants lives in crowded conditions. Crowding is particularly common among larger recent immigrant households.

- It is relatively common for recent immigrants to spend a large share of income on shelter. Over 40 percent of recent immigrant households spend more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter, compared to less than 30 per cent of Canadian-born households. For households consisting only of persons who immigrated between 1991 and 1994, this share is over one half.

- Home ownership is less common among recent immigrant households than Canadian-born households. However, more than one half of the households of immigrants who landed during the 1980s own their home.

PART A: IMMIGRANTS AND RECENT IMMIGRANTS

1.8 million immigrants in Toronto Metropolitan Area

Table A.1: Total and Immigrant Population, Toronto Census Metropolitan Area, Ontario, and Canada, 1981-1996

				Change 1981-1991		Change 1991-1996		Change 1981-1996	
	1981	1991	1996	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Toronto CMA									
Immigrants	1,126,800	1,468,600	1,772,900	341,800	30%	304,300	21%	646,100	57%
Canadian-born	1,848,700	2,296,400	2,407,500	447,700	24%	111,100	5%	558,800	30%
Total Population	2,975,500	3,765,000	4,180,400	789,500	27%	415,400	11%	1,204,900	40%
Ontario									
Immigrants	2,009,600	2,369,200	2,724,500	359,600	18%	355,300	15%	714,900	36%
Canadian-born	6,524,700	7,481,700	7,844,400	957,000	15%	362,700	5%	1,319,700	20%
Total Population	8,534,300	9,850,900	10,568,900	1,316,600	15%	718,000	7%	2,034,600	24%
Canada									
Immigrants	3,827,500	4,342,900	4,971,100	515,400	13%	628,200	14%	1,143,600	30%
Canadian-born	20,256,000	22,427,800	23,390,300	2,171,800	11%	962,600	4%	3,134,300	15%
Total Population	24,083,500	26,770,600	28,361,400	2,687,100	11%	1,590,800	6%	4,277,900	18%

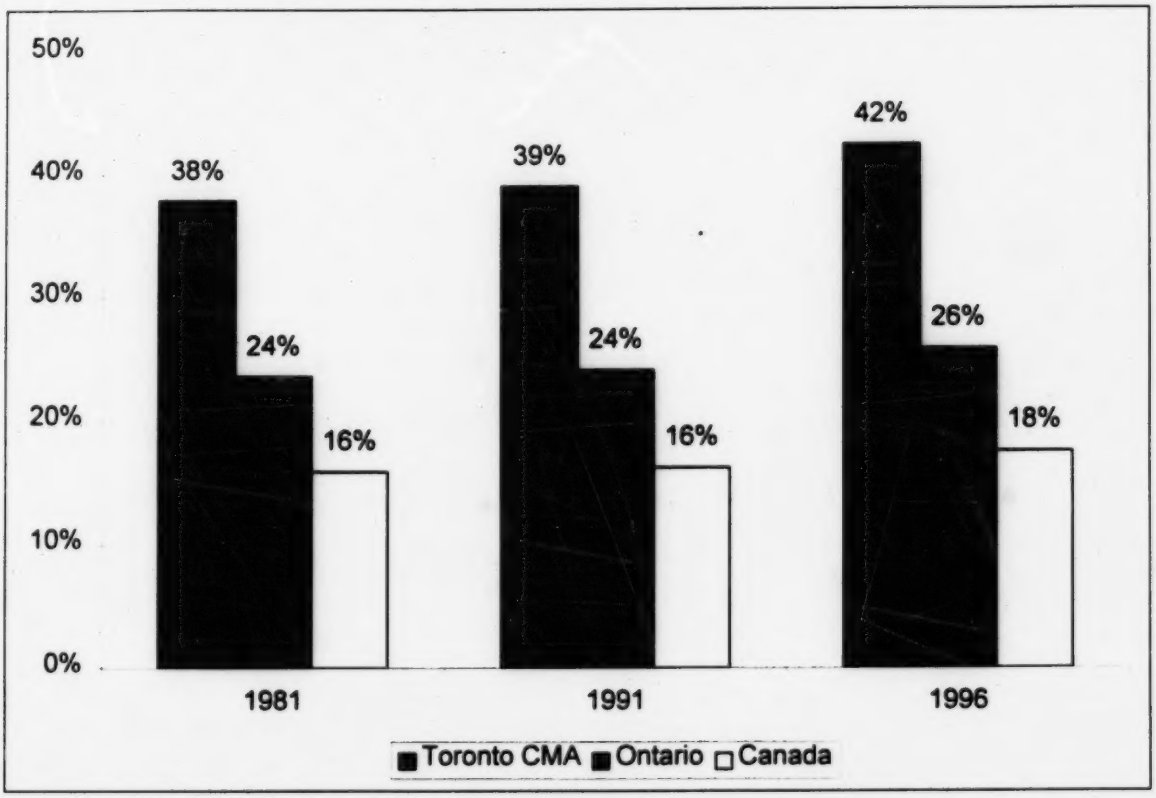
According to the census, there were 1,773,000 immigrants living in the Census Metropolitan Area (CMA; for a definition see the Foreword) of Toronto (i.e., the Toronto area or Toronto for short) in 1996. The immigrant population in Toronto has increased substantially over the 15 years ending in 1996, and has grown at a considerably faster pace than the Canadian-born population. Over the period spanning 1981 to 1996, the number of immigrants living in Toronto increased by 646,000 or 57 per cent. In comparison, Toronto's Canadian-born population increased by 559,000 or 30 per cent. Immigrants accounted for more than half of Toronto's total population growth between 1981 and 1996.

Toronto's immigrant population has grown at a faster pace than the immigrant population in Ontario and in Canada. To take the most recent five-year period as an example, between 1991 and 1996 the number of immigrants in Toronto CMA increased by 304,300, or 21 per cent. By comparison, the total number of immigrants living in Canada increased by 628,000 or 14 per cent during the same five years.

In 1996, Toronto was the place of residence of 15 per cent of the population of Canada, up from 12 per cent in 1981 (shares not shown in Table A.1). As well, the metropolitan area was home to 36 per cent of Canada's five million immigrants, markedly higher than its 29 per cent share 15 years earlier. Toronto's share of the country's 23.3 million Canadian-born persons increased to 10 per cent in 1996 from 9 per cent in 1981.

In 1996, Toronto's share of Ontario's population was 40 per cent, up from 35 per cent 15 years earlier, its share of the province's immigrants was 65 percent, compared to 56 per cent in 1981, and its share of the province's Canadian-born population was 31 per cent, compared to 28 per cent in 1981.

Figure A.1: Number of immigrants as a percentage of the population, Toronto Metropolitan Area, Ontario, and Canada, 1981-1996



The proportion of Toronto's population comprised of immigrants has increased since 1991 after remaining fairly steady between 1981 and 1991. In 1981, immigrants represented 38 per cent of the population. In 1996, immigrants accounted for 42 per cent of the population. The proportion of immigrants in the population of Ontario and Canada has also increased during the first half of the 1990s. The proportion of immigrants in Toronto's population is much higher than the proportion in the country overall.

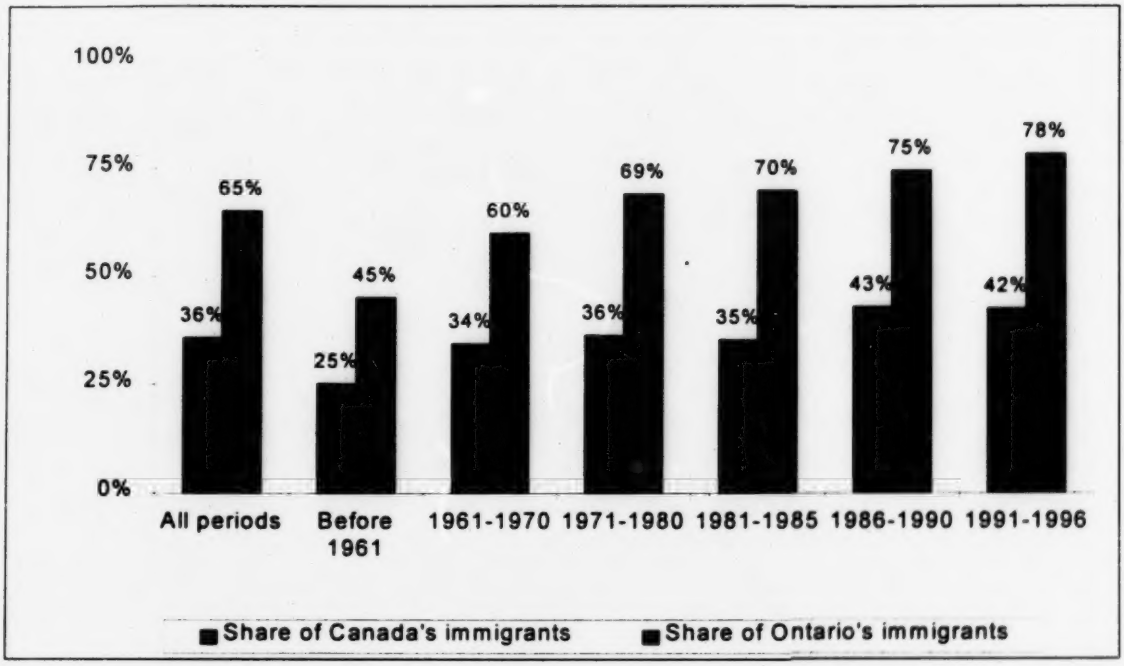
One-half of immigrants landed after 1980

Table A.2: Immigrant population by period of immigration, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

Period of immigration	Toronto		Ontario		Canada	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Before 1961	264,600	15%	588,800	22%	1,054,900	21%
1961-1970	269,900	15%	450,400	17%	788,600	16%
1971-1980	360,400	20%	523,000	19%	996,200	20%
1981-1985	141,000	8%	202,100	7%	401,400	8%
1986-1990	296,000	17%	397,200	15%	691,000	14%
1991-1996	441,000	25%	563,000	21%	1,039,000	21%
Total	1,772,900	100%	2,724,500	100%	4,971,100	100%

Many of Toronto's immigrants have lived in Canada for a long time. Fifty per cent of the 1.8 million immigrants living in Toronto in 1996 arrived in Canada more than 15 years earlier. However, when compared with the immigrant population living in Ontario, and in all of Canada, Toronto's immigrant population is distinguished by a relatively large share of recent immigrants. One-half of Toronto's immigrants arrived in Canada after 1980. In Ontario, 43 per cent of immigrants arrived after 1980, and for Canada, the share is also 43 per cent. Moreover, 25 per cent of immigrants living in Toronto in 1996 arrived after 1990 compared with 21 per cent in the province of Ontario and in Canada.

Figure A.2: Percentage of Canada's and Ontario's immigrants residing in Toronto Metropolitan Area, by period of immigration, 1996



The more recent their arrival, the larger the share of immigrants living in large urban centres, particularly Toronto and Vancouver.

In 1996, more than one-third (36%) of Canada's five million immigrants were living in Toronto. Very recent immigrants to Canada were even more likely to be living in Toronto. Of the immigrant population of 1,039,000 who arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996, 42 per cent were living in Toronto. Of the population of immigrants who landed before 1961, only 25 per cent resided in Toronto.

By the same token, the more recent their arrival, the larger the share of Ontario's immigrants living in Toronto. In 1996, nearly two-thirds (65%) of Ontario's total immigrants, and 78 per cent of Ontario's immigrants arriving between 1991 and 1996 lived in Toronto. Of Ontario's population of immigrants who landed before 1961, only 45 per cent lived in Toronto.

Table A.3: Recent immigrants, number and percentage of the population, Toronto Metropolitan Area, Ontario and Canada, 1996

	Toronto CMA		Ontario		Canada	
Period of immigration	Number	% of population	Number	% of population	Number	% of population
1981-1985	141,000	3%	202,100	2%	401,400	1%
1986-1990	296,000	7%	397,200	4%	691,000	2%
1991-1996	441,000	10%	563,000	5%	1,039,000	4%
Total 1981-1996	878,000	21%	1,162,300	11%	2,131,400	7%

In 1996, there were 878,000 recent immigrants (defined as those who landed in Canada after 1980) living in Toronto, representing 21 per cent of the population. The share of Toronto's population comprised of recent immigrants is quite high in comparison with national figures. In 1996, post-1980 immigrants accounted for 7 per cent of Canada's total population.

In Toronto, the most recent arrivals - those who came to Canada in the 1991 to 1996 period - numbered 441,000, representing 10 per cent of the total population. In Canada as a whole, the most recent arrivals numbered just over one million, representing close to 4 per cent of the population.

Four out of five eligible recent immigrants have become Canadian citizens

By 1996, a large majority of Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the 1980s – 81 per cent – had become Canadian citizens. Recent immigrants from most countries are becoming Canadians in high proportions, from 70 per cent to close to 100 per cent. Among Toronto's ten top countries of birth of immigrants who landed during the 1980s (See Table B.1), more than 90 per cent of those from Hong Kong, Viet Nam and the Philippines had obtained Canadian citizenship by 1996, while between 70 and 90 per cent of those from Poland, China, Jamaica and Guyana had done so.

A significant share of immigrants from Western Europe, the United States, and a few other countries – including India, the United Kingdom and Portugal of the top ten countries of birth - are postponing or forgoing Canadian citizenship. The rate of acquisition of Canadian citizenship by persons who immigrated from these countries during the eighties is less than 70 per cent, the lowest being 23 per cent for immigrants from Australia. For western European countries especially, the rate of naturalization has dropped significantly from levels above 80 per cent for earlier immigrants.

Immigrants from these countries may want to keep open the option of returning to their country of birth. Depending on policies in countries of birth, people may not be able to retain their original nationality if they become Canadian citizens. As well, children born in Canada while the immigrant parents are still citizens of their country of birth may have certain rights in that country.

In today's global economic village there are more and more people who live in more than one country over the course of their working lives. To work in Canada, they may become landed immigrants; but they may not have the intention of becoming Canadian citizens, and may never do so.

The large majority of immigrants, however, clearly continue to opt for Canadian citizenship. Eighty-one per cent of immigrants who landed during the eighties had already done so by June 1996; many more are likely to follow in the years to come.

Citizenship refers to a person's legal citizenship status, as reported in the 1996 census. In Canada, there is a residence requirement of three years before Canadian citizenship can be acquired. As a result, many immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996 were not yet eligible for Canadian citizenship at the time the census was carried out in 1996. For this reason, this group is not considered here. Instead, focus is on persons who immigrated between 1981 and 1990.

In preparing Figure A.3 we did not consider all countries of birth of recent immigrants living in Toronto in 1996. A country was considered if :

- it is the place of birth of at least 10,000 immigrants living in Canada, and
- if the number of immigrants of the 1980s born in that country and living in Toronto is at least 50.

To increase the comparability with information from earlier censuses, we regrouped together in "Countries of the former USSR", "Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic" and in "Countries of the former Yugoslavia" former member countries of these blocks, which may be listed in Figure A.3, and in Tables B.1 and B.2 in the next section. These countries are:

Countries of the former USSR: *Ukraine, Russian Federation, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Balarus, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.*

Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: *Czech Republic and Slovakia.*

Countries of the former Yugoslavia: *Yugoslavia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, and Macedonia.*

Figure A.3: Canadian citizenship by country of birth, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

More than 90 percent of Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the eighties and were born in these countries have become Canadian citizens:	Less than 70 percent of Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the eighties and were born in these countries have become Canadian citizens:	More than one-third of Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the eighties and were born in these countries have **dual citizenship**:
Romania	India	Israel
Tanzania	Mexico	Morocco
Hong Kong	Ireland	Romania
Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	Malaysia	Poland
Countries of the former USSR	United Kingdom	Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic
Ethiopia	South Korea	Egypt
Laos	Italy	Switzerland
Viet Nam	Japan	Lebanon
Hungary	Germany	Argentina
Cambodia	Austria	Countries of the former Yugoslavia
Iran	Chile	Syria
Egypt	Fiji	Taiwan
Kenya	Belgium	Bangladesh
South Africa	Portugal	France
Philippines	United States	Hungary
	Netherlands	
	Finland	
	Denmark	
	Australia	

Percent of immigrants with Canadian Citizenship (including those with dual citizenship)		**Percent of immigrants with dual citizenship**	
Immigrated before 1981:	87%	Immigrated before 1981:	12%
Immigrated 1981-1990:	81%	Immigrated 1981-1990:	18%

Overall, nearly one out of five immigrants (18 %) who arrived during the 1980s had acquired Canadian citizenship while retaining the citizenship of another country. Dual citizenship is more common among recent than earlier immigrants. Among Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada before 1981, about one in eight (12%) reported dual citizenship in 1996.

PART B: WHO ARE THE RECENT IMMIGRANTS?

Origin, destination and immigration class

Asian origins are predominant

Table B.1: Immigrants' top ten places of birth, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Place of Birth	Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
	Immigrated 1991-1996					
1	Hong Kong	48,500	11%			
2	Sri Lanka	36,700	8%	Total of top		
3	China	35,300	8%	ten countries	262,200	59%
4	Philippines	33,200	8%			
5	India	33,200	8%	All other		
6	Poland	18,600	4%	countries	178,800	41%
7	Jamaica	16,800	4%			
8	Countries of former Yugoslavia	13,700	3%	Total	441,000	100%
9	Guyana	13,200	3%			
10	Countries of former USSR	12,900	3%			
	Immigrated 1981-1990					
1	Hong Kong	39,800	9%			
2	India	31,300	7%	Total of top		
3	Poland	30,900	7%	ten countries	259,200	59%
4	China	26,600	6%			
5	Philippines	24,700	6%	All other		
6	Viet Nam	24,400	6%	countries	177,800	41%
7	Jamaica	23,000	5%			
8	Guyana	22,900	5%	Total	437,000	100%
9	Portugal	19,100	4%			
10	United Kingdom	16,500	4%			
	Immigrated before 1981					
1	Italy	141,400	16%			
2	United Kingdom	135,100	15%	Total of top		
3	Portugal	56,600	6%	ten countries	558,500	62%
4	Jamaica	47,100	5%			
5	India	35,400	4%	All other		
6	Greece	33,900	4%	countries	336,400	38%
7	Germany	30,100	3%			
8	Countries of former Yugoslavia	28,400	3%	Total	894,900	100%
9	China	25,700	3%			
10	Poland	24,700	3%			

Toronto's immigrants come from the world over, and represent a diversity of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Over the past several decades, however, there has been a considerable change in the source countries of immigrants. In 1996, for example, there were 441,000 residents of Toronto who had very recently landed in Canada, between 1991 and 1996. The most common country of birth for these immigrants was Hong Kong, accounting for 11 per cent of these new arrivals to Canada. In fact, the ten most common countries of birth – Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, the People's Republic of China, the Philippines, India, Poland, Jamaica, Guyana and the countries of the former Yugoslavia and USSR - accounted for 59 per cent of these very recent immigrants. In comparison, these same ten countries accounted for just 19 per cent of Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada prior to 1961 (not shown in table B.1).

Among Toronto's earlier immigrants – those arriving in Canada before 1981 – Italy and the United Kingdom were the most common countries of birth, accounting for 31 per cent of this group. These two countries accounted for nearly one half (48%) of Toronto's immigrants who arrived in Canada before 1961 (not shown).

In general, the birth origins of Toronto's immigrant population vary in relation to period of immigration. European birth origins are predominant among those who immigrated in the 1950s, 60s and to a lesser extent in the 1970s, and Asian birth origins are predominant among those who immigrated in the 1980s and 90s.

Table B.2 does not list all countries of birth of recent immigrants living in Toronto in 1996. A country is included if
- it is the place of birth of at least 10,000 recent immigrants living in Canada in 1996, and
- if the number of recent immigrants born in that country and living in Toronto is at least 0.5 per cent (rounded to 1 per cent in the table) of the number living in all of Canada.

For some immigrant groups, Toronto is the preferred area of residence. For example, of the 43,000 Guyana-born individuals who immigrated since 1981 and were living in Canada in 1996, 36,000 or 84 per cent were living in Toronto in 1996. Toronto is also home to a large share of Sri Lanka-, Jamaica-, and Trinidad and Tobago-born recent immigrants to Canada. This is in stark contrast to the settlement patterns of U.S. born recent immigrants. Of the 75,000 U.S.-born recent immigrants to Canada, a relatively small proportion -18 per cent - were residing in Toronto in 1996. Even the share of U.S.-born recent immigrants to Canada living in Toronto, however, exceeds the share of Canadian-born persons living in the country's largest metropolitan area – just over 10 per cent.

Table B.2: Number of recent immigrants to Canada by country of birth and share residing in Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

Country of Birth	Total Recent Immigrants to Canada	Share Residing in Toronto
Guyana	43,200	84%
Sri Lanka	63,800	82%
Jamaica	51,000	78%
Trinidad and Tobago	27,700	75%
Ghana	11,300	70%
Pakistan	26,400	60%
Portugal	42,600	60%
Afghanistan	10,700	59%
Countries of the former USSR	34,900	54%
Ethiopia	13,300	53%
Somalia	16,500	53%
Hong Kong	185,900	48%
Iran	43,500	47%
India	139,400	46%
Philippines	127,800	45%
South Africa	14,800	45%
Poland	110,400	45%
Iraq	14,300	45%
Italy	11,900	43%
All recent immigrants	**2,131,400**	**41%**
South Korea	30,300	41%
China	153,300	40%
Countries of the former Yugoslavia	45,435	40%
Egypt	15,100	39%
Peru	11,700	38%
Viet Nam	97,600	38%
Chile	12,200	37%
Malaysia	12,900	36%
Romania	29,900	32%
Countries of former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	12,100	29%
Guatemala	12,200	26%
United Kingdom	88,900	26%
El Salvador	37,700	24%
Taiwan	43,400	23%
Cambodia	14,800	20%
United States	75,400	18%
Lebanon	44,300	16%
Germany	25,500	14%
Fiji	11,000	11%
Mexico	18,300	11%
All Canadian-born	**23,390,300**	**10%**
France	21,500	7%
Morocco	10,300	7%
Haiti	28,700	1%

Large majority immigrated through family and economic class

The number of immigrants destined for Toronto increased three-fold from 1981-85 to 1991-95, as a result of Canada's decision to admit more immigrants and a stronger preference for Toronto among the new arrivals. More persons were admitted through each of the major classes. The number of economic immigrants and their dependants increased three-fold between the first and second half of the 1980s, reaching almost one half of the total. By the first half of the 1990s, the family class regained its customary position as the largest category. During the early 1990s, a number of persons destined for Toronto were also admitted under other programs.

According to the census, there are fewer recent immigrants living in Toronto in 1996 than the number who landed during the period 1981-1995. This reflects the fact that recent immigrants who have subsequently moved away from the area or have died outnumber those who have moved to Toronto from other parts of the country.

Table B.3: Recent immigrants by immigration class, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1981-1995

	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995
Family class	77,200	117,300	210,700
Economic class	51,400	155,600	162,700
Refugees	16,500	43,200	59,400
Other	3,600	7,500	60,200
Total	148,700	323,600	493,000

The 1996 Census did not ask immigrants about the immigration categories through which they were admitted to Canada. This information is available only from records at Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and pertains to the time of landing.

Under Canada's immigration policy there are three major categories of immigration. These categories correspond broadly to the economic, family reunification and humanitarian or protection objectives of the Immigration Act. Hence, persons entering the country as immigrants or refugees have different reasons to do so and accordingly are likely to face different challenges and opportunities after landing in Canada.

Immigrants entering through the *economic* category are persons who have actively sought to settle in Canada and have presumably prepared themselves for the transition. They are selected as individuals and may be accompanied by a spouse and dependants. Only the selected immigrants are assessed against criteria designed to maximise the probability of success in the labour market or in business. Spouses and dependants in this category are not screened against selection criteria but are nevertheless part of the family unit who shared in the decision to move and participated in the preparations for transition. Less than one-half of the economic category are screened against selection criteria.

The *family reunification* category is made up of individuals who are joining family members already established in Canada. These immigrants are not assessed against labour market criteria. They are, however, sponsored by a relative in Canada who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and who has taken the responsibility of providing support for their settlement. Hence, those in the family reunification category are less likely than their counterparts in the economic category to have moved for economic reasons directly related to the labour market or business.

The *refugee* category is made up of Convention refugees and other refugee-like persons who are deemed to require protection or relief. These persons may not have wanted to leave their country of origin and may not have had the opportunity to prepare for moving to Canada. Refugees are expected to take longer to adjust to their new environment and their economic achievements may be modest compared to those of immigrants in the economic category.

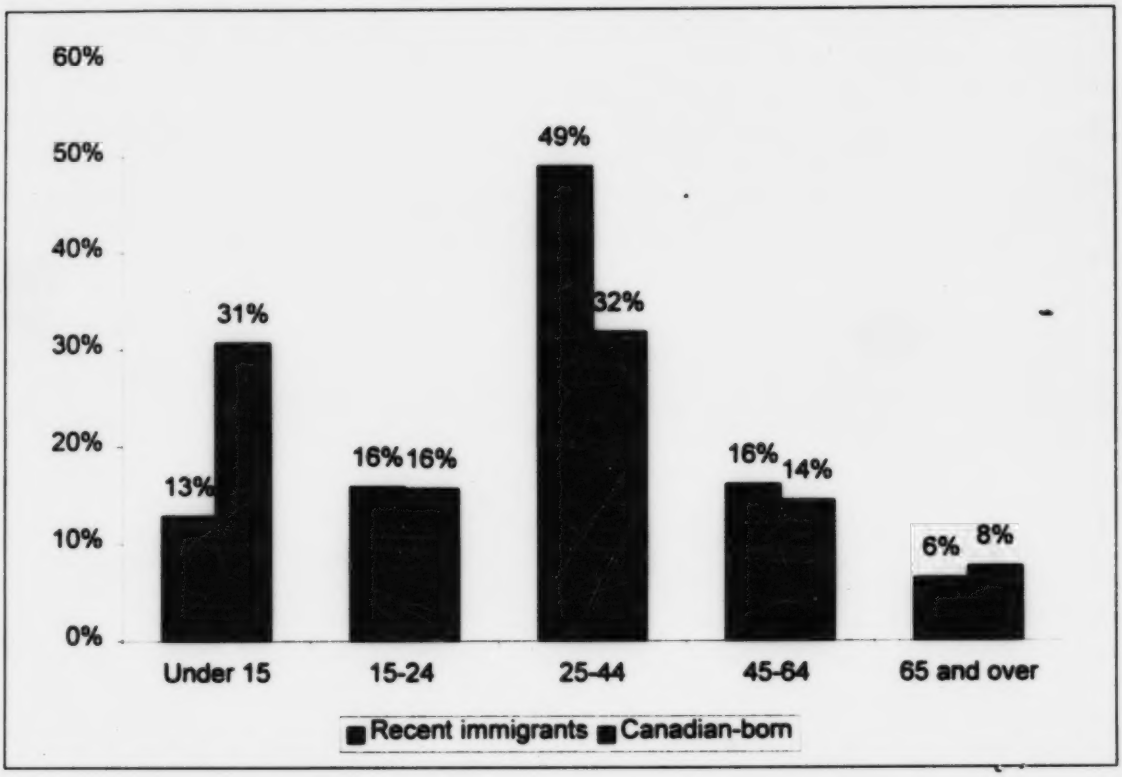
During the period 1981-1995, immigrants were also admitted, in smaller numbers, through special categories or programs established for humanitarian or public policy reasons. These *other* immigrants include, for instance: live-in caregivers in Canada, members of the former retired immigrant class, Post-Determination Refugee Claimants in Canada and persons landed through the Deferred Removal Order Class and the Backlog Clearance program.

The number and characteristics of immigrants by immigration category have been shown to have an impact on the adjustment process and are reflected in the statistics on immigrants presented in this report. In addition, other factors that influence the circumstances of the population of Canada, and in particular metropolitan areas, also have an effect on the conditions of recent and earlier immigrants living in these areas.

This section presents, by category of immigration, the number of immigrants landed between 1981 and 1995 who indicated they intended to settle in the Toronto metropolitan area. These numbers are presented for indicative purposes only. They cannot be taken as an accurate description of the population of recent immigrants in the Toronto area as some have, for instance, moved away, some have died, and other recent immigrants may have moved to Toronto from other parts of Canada.

Fewer children, more 25-44 year olds among recent immigrants

Figure B.1: Age structure of the recent immigrant and Canadian-born population, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



The age distribution of the recent immigrant population (those arriving between 1981 and 1996) is markedly different from that of the Canadian-born population, with a larger proportion aged 25 to 44, and proportionally fewer children under 15. In 1996, nearly one-half (49%) of recent immigrants living in Toronto were between the ages of 25 and 44, compared with one-third (32%) of Canadian-born individuals. Children under 15 accounted for just 13 per cent of the recent immigrant population compared with 31 per cent for Canadian-born children.

These differences in age structure result from two factors. The first is age at arrival in Canada. Immigrants tend to arrive in Canada during their prime working-age years. This was the case among immigrants who arrived more than 30 years ago, and it is still the case today. It is therefore not surprising that a large share of recent immigrants were within the 25 to 44 age group at the time of the 1996 census.

The second factor is ageing. Only a small percentage of recent immigrants are children. On average across the country, about 20 per cent of recent immigrants were children under 15 years of age at the time of their arrival in Canada. But by 1996, many of these children had lived in the country for several years, and had since become youths or young adults. Children born in Canada to immigrant parents are not themselves considered immigrants, but are part of the Canadian-born population. Thus, the smaller proportion of children within the recent immigrant population should not be taken as an indication of lower fertility rates among immigrants.

Earlier immigrants, for the same two reasons, tend to be older than recent immigrants and the population born in the country. In the Toronto area, more than two thirds of immigrants who arrived prior to 1981 are over 45 years old, compared to 23 per cent of the Canadian-born. The reader may want to bear this in mind, since many of the characteristics and circumstances described in this profile vary with age. Differences between groups of immigrants and the Canadian-born may be a reflection of differences in age. Often other factors play a role as well, as will be shown.

Table B.4: Number of women as a proportion of the population, by age group, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

Age in 1996	Recent Immigrants	Canadian-born
0 to 15	49%	49%
15 to 24	50%	49%
25 to 44	52%	51%
45 to 64	53%	52%
65 and over	58%	59%
All ages	52%	51%
Total number of women	457,000	1,217,000
Total number of men	421,000	1,190,000

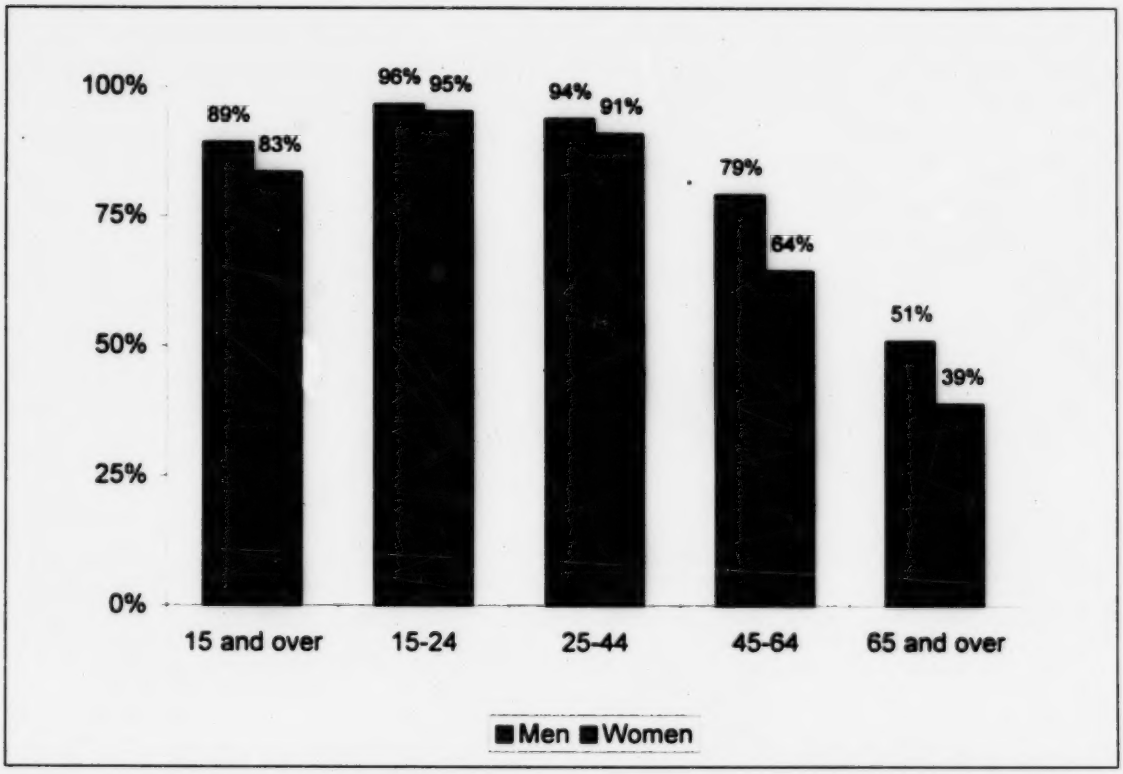
The proportion of women in the recent-immigrant population in Toronto is similar to but, at 52 per cent, slightly higher than that of the Canadian-born population. The number of women is particularly high among recent immigrants from the Philippines (62 per cent are women; there are 13,500 more women than men; data for individual countries of birth not shown in table) and Jamaica (59 per cent are women; there are 6,700 more women than men). The proportion of women for recent immigrants from Colombia, France, Mexico and the U.S. is also higher than 55 per cent, but the number of immigrants from these countries is small compared to the Philippines, Jamaica and the top countries of birth.

As women on average live longer than men, they make up a large share of persons aged 65 years and over. But the higher proportion of women among recent immigrants from the six countries just mentioned is not related to age, quite the contrary. For instance, almost two-thirds of recent immigrants aged 25 to 44 from the Philippines are women. Many of these have obtained permanent resident status after a period of employment as live-in caregivers.

At the opposite end of the spectrum of gender mix are Ghana, Lebanon, Israel, Iran, Iraq and Bangladesh. 53 per cent or more of recent immigrants from these countries are men. For all other countries, the share of men is within the range of 45 to 53 per cent.

Eighty-six per cent of very recent immigrants speak English or French

Figure B.2: Proportion of men and women of 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English or French, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



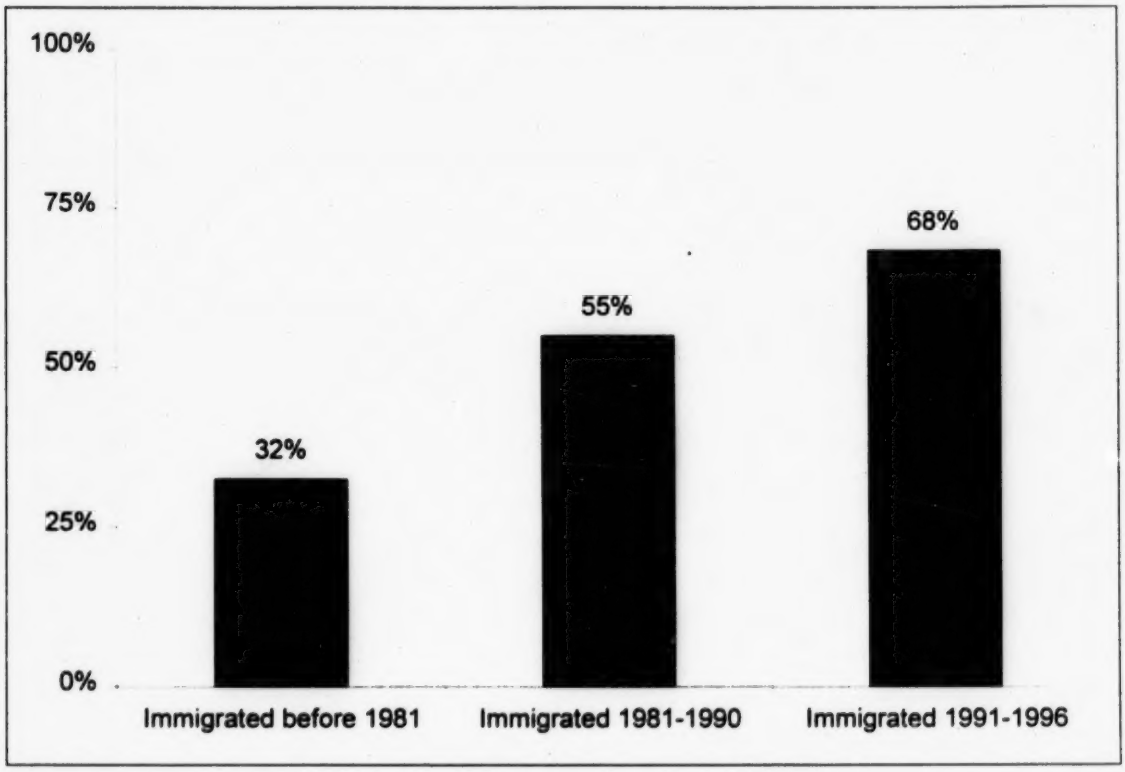
A large majority of Toronto's immigrants of 15 years and over report being able to carry on a conversation in at least one of Canada's two official languages. Even among very recent immigrants, who arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996, 86 per cent (89% of men and 83% of women) reported ability to speak an official language. Fourteen per cent of these most recent immigrants – about one in seven individuals – could not speak either official language. Knowledge of official languages is more widespread among those who immigrated in earlier periods: 90 per cent of those arriving between 1981 and 1990, and 93 per cent of those arriving before 1981 indicated ability to speak an official language.

Most recently immigrated women are somewhat less likely than men to have conversational knowledge of English or French. Among Toronto's women who landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996, for example, 17 per cent could speak neither English nor French. The comparable figure among men arriving in this period was 11 per cent.

The proportion of Toronto's immigrants able to carry on a conversation in English or French decreases with age. Among younger immigrants who landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996, almost all are able to speak an official language, and there is little difference between men and women in this regard. Among those between the ages of 25 and 44, a large majority - 94% of men and 91% of women - report ability to speak an official language. Among those aged 45 to 64, however, the percentage that can speak English or French falls sharply, and more so for women than men (79% of men and 64% of women). For both men and women, seniors aged 65 and over are least likely to have conversational ability in English or French (51% of men and 39% of women).

Immigrant women make up the majority of those unable to speak English or French. In Toronto, for example, there were a total of 51,000 immigrants who had landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996, and who could speak neither official language at the time of the 1996 census. Women accounted for nearly two-thirds (64%) of this number. A large number of immigrants who are without knowledge of official languages are women aged between 45 and 64. They made up 8 per cent of all immigrants of 15 years of age and over who arrived between 1991 and 1996, but accounted for 25 per cent of those unable to speak English or French.

Figure B.3: Use of a foreign language in the home, as a percentage of the number of persons aged 15 and over, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



For the majority of Toronto's recent immigrants the language spoken most often at home is one other than English or French. Two-thirds of immigrants who landed between 1991 and 1996 most often speak a foreign language within their homes.

The use of English in the home is considerably higher among those who immigrated in earlier periods. Less than one in two (45%) of those who immigrated between 1981 and 1990, and two-thirds (67%) of those who immigrated prior to 1981 indicated that English was the language most frequently spoken at home. French is most often spoken at home by less than 1 per cent of these groups.

Level of education similar

Highest level of education refers to the education attained at the time of the census in May 1996. It does not refer to education level upon arrival in Canada. Immigrants may have received additional schooling in Canada after their arrival.

Table B.5: Highest level of education, persons aged 15 and over, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Number of persons
Women						
Canadian-born	4%	24%	27%	25%	20%	859,200
Immigrated before 1981	23%	18%	20%	25%	13%	465,600
Immigrated 1981-1990	15%	21%	24%	25%	16%	207,100
Immigrated 1991-1996	14%	22%	25%	22%	17%	195,100
Men						
Canadian-born	4%	25%	25%	24%	22%	811,100
Immigrated before 1981	19%	17%	16%	30%	18%	429,300
Immigrated 1981-1990	10%	22%	23%	25%	20%	193,600
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	24%	24%	21%	22%	169,700

The education level of Toronto's recent immigrant population is similar to but somewhat lower than that of Toronto's Canadian-born population. For instance, the proportion holding a university degree is the same for the most recent immigrants as for Canadian-born men, one in five (22%). The proportion of Canadian-born women holding a degree is 20 per cent. But only one out of six very recently immigrated women (17%) have a degree. One fifth to one-quarter of recent immigrants hold a college or trade diploma, compared with one-quarter of the Canadian-born.

The major difference in the education profiles of recent immigrants and persons born in Canada is in the percentage with less than a grade 9 education. Very few Canadian-born men and women (4%) have less than grade 9, compared with 9 to 10 per cent of men and 14 to 15 per cent of women who immigrated after 1980.

Table B.6: Persons with less than high school and persons with more than high school, as a share of the population, by age group, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	No high school diploma			With post-secondary diploma or degree		
	25-44	45-64	65 and over	25-44	45-64	65 and over
Women						
Canadian-born	14%	29%	54%	61%	46%	24%
Immigrated before 1981	22%	42%	67%	53%	39%	17%
Immigrated 1981-1990	24%	41%	76%	53%	39%	11%
Immigrated 1991-1996	23%	50%	75%	53%	31%	12%
Men						
Canadian-born	17%	28%	48%	59%	54%	36%
Immigrated before 1981	22%	34%	57%	56%	53%	32%
Immigrated 1981-1990	25%	28%	61%	54%	55%	24%
Immigrated 1991-1996	22%	32%	60%	56%	48%	22%

When education levels are compared by age group, it appears that the younger generation has a much higher level of education, whether born in or outside Canada. For instance, five out of six persons under 45 years of age born in Canada have completed high school, compared to one half of seniors. Three out of five Canadian-born under 45 years of age have a post-secondary diploma or degree (59% of men and 61% of women), compared to 36 per cent of men over 65 and 24 per cent of women. A similar large shift in educational qualifications is observed among immigrants. Thus, the level of education of immigrants differs far more by age than by period of immigration.

In every age group except men aged 45 to 64 there is a significant difference in level of educational attainment between the Canadian-born and recent immigrants. For instance, almost one in four women aged 25 to 44 who immigrated after 1980 does not have a high school diploma (24% and 23%), compared to 14 per cent of Canadian-born women in this age group. Post-secondary diplomas and degrees are less common for this group of recent immigrants (53%) than the Canadian-born (61%).

Canada is a world leader with respect to educational attainment of the population. This makes it unlikely for immigrants as a group to have the same or higher educational qualifications as persons born in Canada, in particular since education and skills play a role in the selection of only a certain proportion of immigrants. As well, the Canadian-born population in Toronto has more education than the Canadian-born in Canada as a whole by a considerable margin. This is not the case for recent immigrants. Those living in Toronto have approximately the same educational background as all recent immigrants in Canada.

Recent immigrants add to Toronto's pool of scientists and engineers

Major field of study refers to the predominant area of learning or training of a person's highest post-secondary diploma or degree. Ten major areas of study have been grouped in Table B.7 as follows:

(1) Physical sciences, engineering and trades:
- Engineering and applied science technologies and trades
- Engineering and applied sciences
- Mathematics and physical sciences
- Agricultural and biological sciences/technologies

(2) Social sciences, education, and arts
- Social sciences and related fields
- Educational, recreational and counselling services
- Humanities and related fields
- Fine and applied arts

(3) Commerce, management and business administration

(4) Health professions, sciences and technologies

The data pertain only to persons who have a post-secondary – trade or college – certificate or diploma or a university degree.

Almost three out of every five men who immigrated after 1980 and have a post-secondary diploma or degree majored in physical sciences, engineering or trades. This compares to two out of five Canadian-born men. Among women with a post-secondary diploma or degree, one in five recent immigrants have studied some physical science or technology, compared to one in ten Canadian-born women.

By contrast, recent immigrants are represented in significantly smaller proportions than the Canadian-born in the social sciences, education and arts. One-half of Canadian-born women have diplomas or degrees in these fields, compared to only one out of three recent immigrants. For men, the share of diplomas and degrees in the social fields of studies is one-third for the Canadian-born and less than one-fifth for recent immigrants.

Three out of ten recent immigrant women studied in the broad area of commerce, management and business administration for their post-secondary diploma or degree. A similar but somewhat lower proportion of Canadian-born women chose this field. The proportion of women that graduated in health professions and sciences is also quite similar between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born.

Table B.7: Number of persons by major field of study, as a percentage of all persons with a post-secondary diploma or degree, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated 1981 - 1996
Women		
Physical sciences, engineering and trades	10%	21%
Social sciences, education, and arts	50%	33%
Commerce, management and business administration	27%	31%
Health professions, sciences and technologies	14%	15%
Number of persons with post-secondary diploma or degree	384,000	160,300
Men		
Physical sciences, engineering and trades	41%	58%
Social sciences, education, and arts	32%	18%
Commerce, management and business administration	23%	19%
Health professions, sciences and technologies	4%	5%
Number of persons with post-secondary diploma or degree	368,900	159,800

Recent immigrants more likely to attend school

School attendance refers to either part-time or full-time attendance at school, college or university during the eight-month period between September 1995 and May 14, 1996. Attendance is counted only for courses which could be used as credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree.

Immigrants of 25 to 64 years old who landed in the last five years before the 1996 census are more likely than pre-1981 immigrants and the Canadian-born to be attending school. Among women between 25 and 44 years of age, for example, 25 per cent of these most recent immigrants were attending school compared with 14 per cent of the Canadian-born. As regards young adults, the share attending school is similar between recent immigrants and persons born in Canada.

Among young adults, the share attending school is also higher for recent immigrants than for persons born in Canada, except for young women who immigrated between 1991 and 1996. Persons aged 15 to 19 years, who have a higher rate of school attendance than those between 20 and 24 years, make up one half of very recent immigrants as well as of the Canadian-born in this age group (not shown). Thus, the higher rate of school attendance among young very recently immigrated men is not a result of differences in age structure but reflects different behaviour.

The proportion of adult recent immigrants attending school is highest among those who already have a post-secondary degree or diploma (not shown). Recent immigrants with foreign diplomas or degrees may be attending school full-time or part-time to obtain an equivalent Canadian diploma or degree, or to prepare for tests they need to pass to have their credentials recognised in Canada.

Table B.8: Persons attending school as a percentage of all persons in an age group, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64
Women			
Canadian-born	72%	14%	6%
Immigrated before 1981	66%	13%	5%
Immigrated 1981-1990	75%	17%	7%
Immigrated 1991-1996	69%	25%	12%
Men			
Canadian-born	70%	12%	3%
Immigrated before 1981	63%	12%	3%
Immigrated 1981-1990	74%	14%	6%
Immigrated 1991-1996	74%	21%	11%

PART C: FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Family and household affiliation of individuals

Nine out of ten recent immigrants live with relatives

Table C.1: Living arrangements, by age, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
All Ages (including also ages 0-15)				
Living alone	8%	10%	5%	3%
Living with non-relatives only	4%	2%	3%	4%
Living with relatives	88%	87%	92%	92%
15-24				
Living alone	2%	2%	2%	1%
Living with non-relatives only	5%	5%	3%	4%
Living with relatives	93%	93%	95%	95%
25-44				
Living alone	11%	6%	5%	5%
Living with non-relatives only	8%	4%	4%	7%
Living with relatives	81%	90%	91%	88%
45-64				
Living alone	14%	8%	6%	3%
Living with non-relatives only	4%	2%	3%	3%
Living with relatives	82%	91%	91%	94%
65 and over				
Living alone	32%	22%	11%	5%
Living with non-relatives only	2%	2%	1%	2%
Living with relatives	66%	76%	87%	94%

Very few recent immigrants live alone. Like the Canadian born population, a large majority of recent immigrants live in households with at least two people, and in most cases, these are people with whom they are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. In fact, recent immigrants are more likely than the Canadian-born population to live with relatives. This is true for all age groups, but is most notable among people aged 65 and over. Among Canadian-born seniors in Toronto, two-thirds live with relatives, while almost one-third live alone. By comparison, more than nine out of ten very recent immigrants aged 65 and over live with relatives (94%), and only one in twenty live alone (5%).

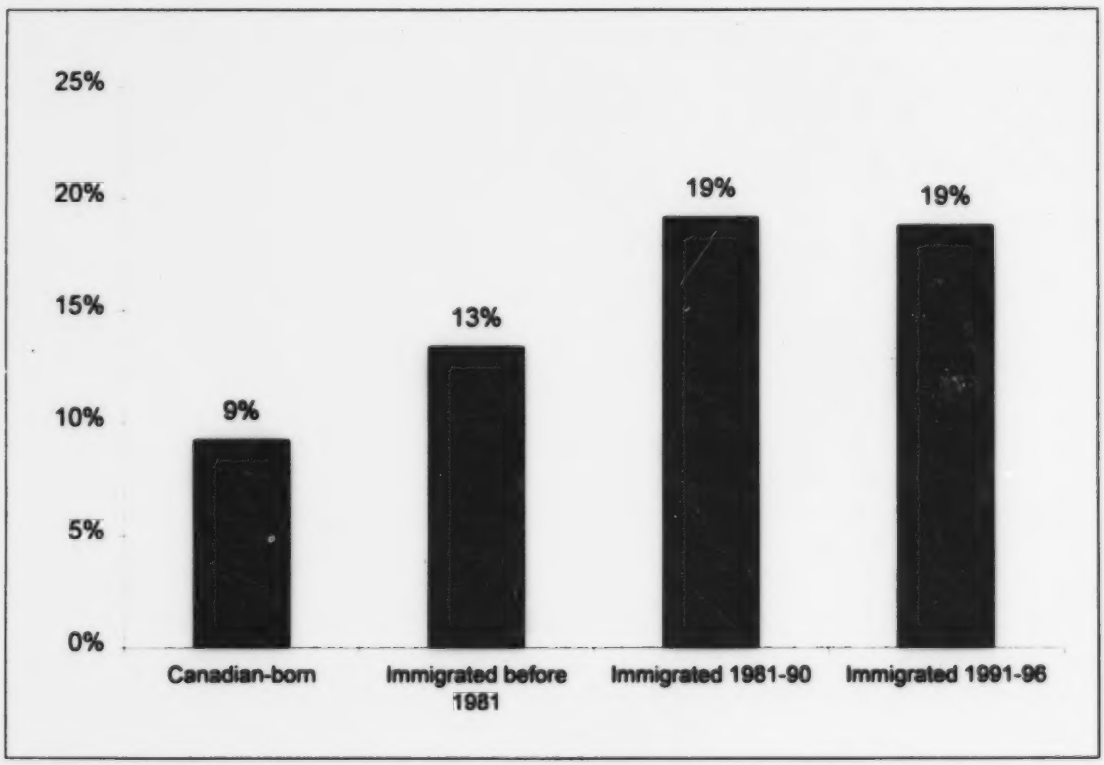
Recent immigrants more likely to live in extended families

Living arrangements refer to the composition of the household a person belongs to. Living arrangements can be simple, as in the case of the "nuclear family" household (defined as a lone parent living with never-married children, or a husband-wife family with or without never-married children living at home) or they can be more complex, and include other relatives such as aunts, uncles, grandparents, and so on. In this section, the latter situation is called an "extended family" arrangement. As an illustration, a couple with two never-married children would be considered a nuclear family. If the children's grandparents were living in the household, all members of the household would be living in an extended family arrangement.

Whereas Table C.1 includes all persons, Figure C.1 and Table C.2 include only persons who are living with relatives. A small percentage of individuals living with relatives are in "non-family" households. An example might be two adult brothers living together. The percentage of individuals in these situations is not shown in the table and figure in this section. Consequently, the percentages in Table C.2 do not add to 100%.

Recent immigrants are similar to Canadian-born individuals in that most live in nuclear families, with no relatives other than the immediate members of the nuclear family. But unlike the Canadian-born population, recent immigrants are also fairly likely to live in extended family situations. Of the Canadian-born population living with one or more relatives, only about one in ten are part of an extended-family living arrangement. The proportion of recent immigrants in that kind of arrangement is twice as large, one in five.

Figure C.1: Persons living in an extended family as a percentage of the population living with relatives, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



Extended family living arrangements are most common among older recent immigrants. Forty per cent of the most recent immigrants aged 65 and over live in extended families, compared with one ten per cent of Canadian-born seniors. Older recent immigrants living in extended families are most often related to someone within a nuclear family, and are not members of the nuclear family itself. This suggests that many of these seniors are recently immigrated parents who live with the family of their child who had come to Canada previously.

Table C.2: Persons living in nuclear and extended families as a percentage of the population living with relatives, by age group, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
All ages				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	89%	85%	79%	79%
% in extended families	9%	13%	19%	19%
Under 15				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	89%	n.a.	85%	86%
% in extended families	10%	n.a.	15%	14%
15-24				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	88%	82%	80%	79%
% in extended families	10%	15%	17%	18%
25-44				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	90%	85%	80%	79%
% in extended families	8%	13%	18%	18%
45-64				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	90%	87%	80%	78%
% in extended families	8%	12%	18%	20%
65 and over				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	85%	80%	60%	58%
% in extended families	10%	17%	37%	40%

300,000 recent immigrant families in Toronto Metropolitan Area

Defining "Recent immigrant family"
Immigrant status is a characteristic of individuals. But in this section, focus shifts to an examination of the families in which recent immigrants reside. The term "recent immigrant family" refers to either a lone-parent family in which the parent is a recent immigrant, or a husband-wife family in which either (or both) spouses are recent immigrants.

The large majority of recent immigrants are members of recent immigrant families; some live alone or in non-family households. Most recently immigrated never-married children are also members of such families – the children having immigrated with their parents or parent – but some are members of earlier immigrant families (if parents immigrated before 1981 and the children followed later) or Canadian-born families (if the children were adopted, for instance).

Some recent immigrant families came to Canada as married couples, while others formed conjugal unions after arrival. Because the census only asks people to report marital status at the time of the census, it is not known if people married before or after coming to Canada. Similarly, it is not possible to determine whether recent immigrants became lone-parents before or after arrival in Canada.

Defining "Canadian-born family"
"Canadian-born families" are families in which the lone parent or both spouses were born in Canada.

Defining 'Age of family"
Age of family is determined by the age of the oldest member, i.e. the age of the lone parent or older of the spouses.

In Toronto in 1996, there were 878,000 recent immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1981 and 1996. A large majority of these immigrants – 746,000 or 85 per cent – were members of a nuclear family. In other words, they were husbands, wives, common-law partners, lone parents, or never-married children. Almost all these recent immigrants lived in 300,300 recent immigrant families, i.e. families in which either or both spouses or the lone parent are recent immigrants. More than one in four families in Toronto (26%) are recent immigrant families.

Most of the recent immigrant families (84%) consist of married or common-law couples, while 16 per cent are lone-parent families. This is very similar to Canadian-born families. Seventeen per cent of Canadian-born families are lone parent families, and 83 per cent are married or common-law couples.

When families are grouped by the age of the oldest member, some small differences between Canadian-born and recent immigrant families appear. The proportion of lone parent families declines slightly with age among the Canadian-born families, whereas among recent immigrant families it increases with age.

Table C.3: Family structure, by age of oldest spouse or lone parent, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All families (including also ages 15-24)		
couples with or without children	83%	84%
lone parents	17%	16%
total number	412,700	300,300
25-44		
couples with or without children	83%	86%
lone parents	17%	14%
total number	215,900	187,000
45-64		
couples with or without children	83%	84%
lone parents	17%	16%
total number	131,700	82,800
65 and over		
couples with or without children	87%	81%
lone parents	13%	19%
total number	57,000	26,300

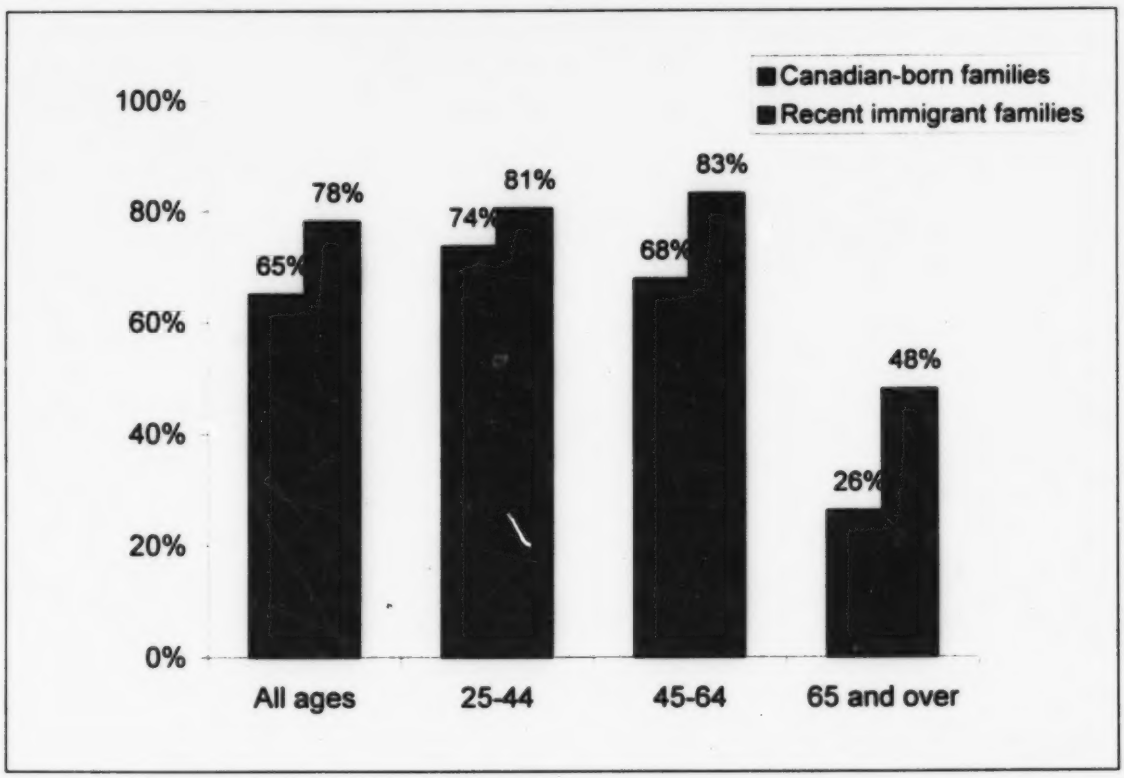
Recent immigrant families more likely to have children in the home

A striking difference between recent immigrant and Canadian-born families is in the proportion of families with never-married children at home. Four out of five recent immigrant families (78%) have at least one never-married child of any age living at home. By comparison, two out of three Canadian-born families (65%) have children at home.

This difference occurs across age groups when families are grouped by the age of the oldest member, but is more pronounced for older families. Among young families, 81 per cent of recent-immigrant families have children at home, compared to 74 per cent of Canadian-born families. One in two recent-immigrant families of seniors (48%) have children in the home, compared to one in four Canadian-born families (26%).

The higher proportion of older recent immigrant families with children living at home could be due to a number of factors, including a greater likelihood that older children will stay longer in the parental home, as well as possible differences in the timing of childbirth and level of fertility. Some of the children in older immigrant families may be adults living with and possibly supporting one or two ageing parents.

Figure C.2: Families with never-married children living at home, as a percentage of all families, by age of family, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



Older recent immigrant families have more children living at home

Whereas Table C.3 and Figure C.2 give information about all families, Table C.4 describes families with children only. Figure C.2 gives the number of families with children living at home as a percentage of all families, and Table C.4 subdivides families with children by the number of children. Thus, the percentages shown in Table C.4 add to 100, except for small discrepancies due to rounding.

Recent immigrant families with children are somewhat more likely to have more than two children in the home than Canadian-born families with children. One out of five recent immigrant families with children have three or more children, compared to one out of six Canadian-born families.

There is no difference in the number of children born to younger recent immigrant and Canadian-born families with children. However, one-quarter of recent immigrant families whose older spouse or lone parent is 45 to 64 years have more than two children, compared to 14 per cent of Canadian-born families. And among the oldest recent immigrant families, 15 per cent has three or more children living at home, compared to only two per cent of Canadian-born families.

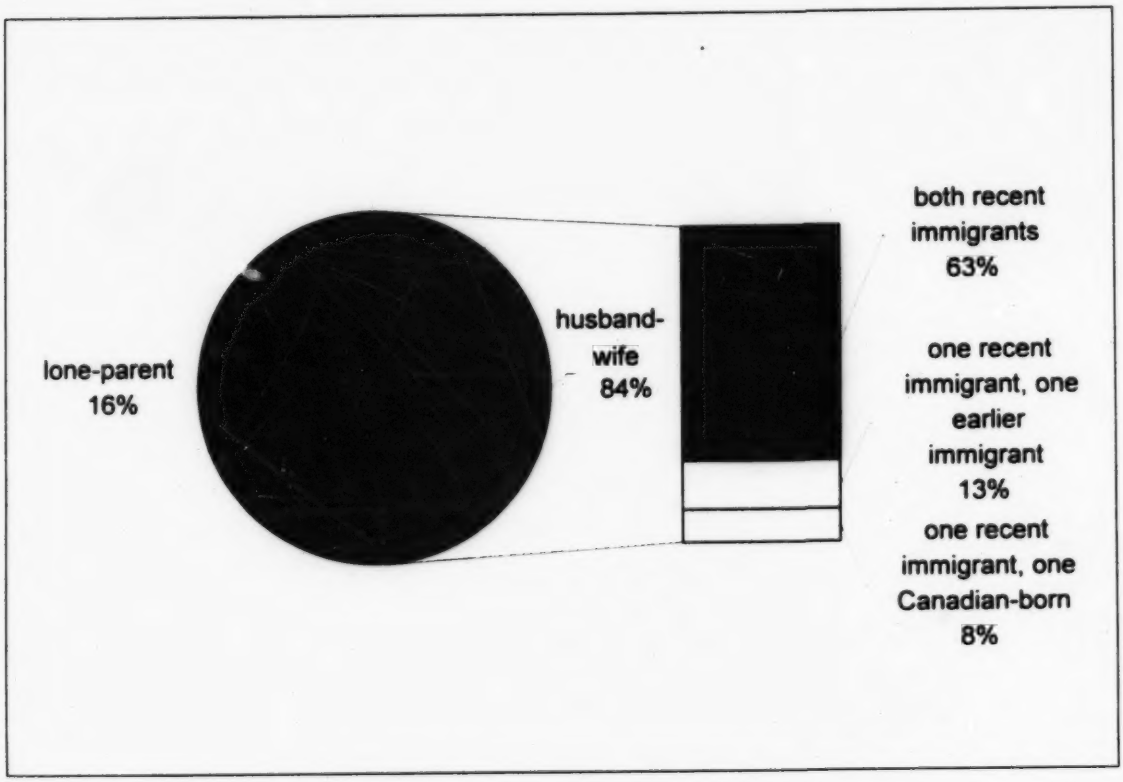
Table C.4: Families with never-married children living at home, by number of children and age of family, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All ages (including also ages 15-24)		
One child	43%	39%
Two children	40%	41%
Three or more children	16%	21%
25-44		
One child	37%	38%
Two children	44%	43%
Three or more children	19%	19%
45-64		
One child	47%	34%
Two children	39%	41%
Three or more children	14%	25%
65 and over		
One child	86%	60%
Two children	12%	25%
Three or more children	2%	15%

Majority of recent immigrants married to other recent immigrants

The majority of the 300,300 recent immigrant families (63%) are comprised of a recently immigrated husband married to or living common-law with a recently immigrated wife, with or without children. An additional 13 per cent of families have a recently immigrated spouse and a spouse who immigrated earlier, before 1981. In a small number of cases (8%) is a recent immigrant paired with a Canadian-born spouse.

Figure C.3: Recent immigrant families by type, showing immigrant status of spouses, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



Of the families of immigrants who landed before 1981, one in four consists of an immigrant paired with a Canadian-born spouse (26%, not shown). This proportion is three times as large as that of recent immigrants.

When recent immigrants enter into conjugal unions, they are very likely to do so as a legally married couple. Just one out of every twenty recent-immigrant couples live common-law, compared with one out of eight Canadian-born couples. Even among younger couples, where common-law is the clear preference of the Canadian born, relatively few recent immigrant couples have chosen this option.

The low incidence of common-law relationships is in part a result of immigration laws, which do not recognise common-law relationships. Common-law partners have to be admitted separately as individuals, whereas a marital couple may enter as a unit. Differences in attitudes towards common-law relationships may also play a role.

Table C.5: Couples in common-law relationships as a proportion of all husband-wife couples, by age of older partner, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All ages	12%	5%
15-24	64%	23%
25-44	16%	6%
45-64	9%	3%
65 and over	3%	1%

350,000 recent immigrant households in Toronto Metropolitan Area

Defining "Recent immigrant household"
A household is a group of persons sharing living accommodation. In a recent immigrant household, one or more of the members aged 15 years or over is a recent immigrant, having immigrated to Canada between 1981 and 1996. All recent immigrants of 15 years or over are members of recent immigrant households.

Recent immigrant households are subdivided by period of landing in the same way as individuals. A household with one or more persons over 15 years of age who immigrated during 1991-1996 is a 1990s immigrant household. If all persons of 15 and over immigrated during 1991-1996, the household is called a "1990s immigrants only" household. If there are members of 15 and over who belong to other groups, the household is called "1990s immigrants with others". The "others" are immigrants who landed before 1991 or Canadian-born persons or both. A 1980s immigrant household includes at least one person who immigrated during the 1980s, and no persons who immigrated during 1991-1996.

Defining 'Canadian-born household"
A Canadian-born household is a household in which all members aged 15 years or over were born in Canada.

Defining "Earlier immigrant household"
An earlier immigrant household includes one or more persons who immigrated in or before 1980 and does not include any persons who immigrated after 1980.

Together, these three groups include all households, as households consisting entirely of non-permanent residents are not considered here. The recent immigrant family concept is the most encompassing of the three, and the Canadian-born household the narrowest. Many earlier immigrant households (more than half of such households in Toronto) include Canadian-born persons, including children born in Canada who have passed the age of 14.

Table C.6: Households by immigrant status of members of 15 years and over, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Number of households	Share of all households
Canadian-born households	631,000	43%
Earlier immigrant households	495,000	34%
Recent immigrant households	351,000	24%
of which:		
1980s immigrants	170,000	*11.5%*
1990s immigrants with others	78,000	*5.3%*
with Canadian-born	*11,100*	*0.8%*
with other immigrants	*61,000*	*4.1%*
with Canadian-born and other immigrants	*6,400*	*0.4%*
1990s immigrants only	103,000	*6.9%*
Total	1,477,000	100%

In Toronto in 1996, there were three hundred and fifty thousand recent immigrant households - households in which at least one member of 15 years or older was a recent immigrant. These made up one-quarter (24%) of the total number of households in Toronto.

One half of the recent immigrant households (181,000) have at least one member who immigrated during the 1990s. In more than one-half of these households (103,000) all members are very recent immigrants. But it is also quite common for very recent immigrants to live together with immigrants who landed before 1991, with Canadian-born persons, or with both (78,000 households).

As for households not including recent immigrants, more than two out of five households in Toronto (43%) comprise only Canadian-born persons. The remaining one-third of all households (34%) include one or more earlier immigrants but no recent immigrants. More than one-half of these earlier immigrant households also include persons born in Canada, often children born after immigration.

Recent immigrant households more likely to be larger than a nuclear family

The majority of households consist of families. Families may live alone (nuclear family households), with other families (multiple family households), or with non-family persons which may or may not be relatives (expanded-family households). All other households are non-family households consisting of one or more persons who may be related by blood or not.

A recent immigrant household is much more likely than a Canadian-born household to consist of one or more families. More than four out of five recent immigrant households (84%) are family households, compared to 63 per cent of Canadian-born households.

More than one-third of Canadian-born households are non-family households, and most of these consist of a person living alone (31% of households). Among recent immigrant households, persons living alone are relatively rare (10%).

Most households consist of a nuclear family, i.e. a couple with or without children, or a lone parent with one or more children living together. Immigrant households, except for households of very recent immigrants with others, are more likely to consist of just a nuclear family than Canadian-born households.

A significant proportion of recent immigrant households consists of a nuclear family living with other persons (15%). In most of these expanded-family households the non-family person or persons are related to the family. Expanded-family households are not unknown among Canadian-born, but they occur much less frequently.

Households of recent immigrants are also much more likely than Canadian-born households to consist of two or more families. These families may be related to each other, as for example a married couple living with the family of one of their children. Multiple family households are most common among households combining very recent immigrants with other Canadians. On the other hand, households of earlier immigrants and Canadian-born persons are not likely to consist of two or more families. Many new immigrants clearly live in family households that are different from the standard nuclear family.

Table C.7: Household structure, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Family households				Non-family		Number of households
	All family households	Nuclear families	Expanded families	Multiple families	Single person	Multiple persons	
Canadian-born	63%	57%	5%	1%	31%	6%	631,000
Earlier immigrants	78%	67%	8%	3%	18%	4%	495,000
Recent immigrants	84%	61%	15%	9%	10%	6%	351,000
1980s immigrants	*83%*	*65%*	*12%*	*5%*	*12%*	*5%*	170,000
1990s immigrants with others	*92%*	*44%*	*27%*	*21%*	*0%*	*8%*	78,000
1990s immigrants only	*81%*	*66%*	*10%*	*5%*	*14%*	*6%*	103,000
All households	73%	61%	8%	3%	22%	5%	1,477,000

Table C.8: Size of households, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Number of persons in household			Estimated size
	1 to 3	4 or 5	6 or more	
Canadian-born	77%	21%	2%	2.5
Earlier immigrants	66%	30%	4%	3.0
Recent immigrants	51%	37%	12%	3.6
1980s immigrants	*51%*	*37%*	*12%*	*3.5*
1990s immigrants with others	*42%*	*34%*	*24%*	*4.3*
1990s immigrants only	*55%*	*36%*	*9%*	*3.4*
All households	67%	28%	5%	2.9

Size is estimated assuming an average of 4.5 for households with 4 or 5 members and 7 for households with 6 or more members. For sizes 1 to 3 the actual number of households with each size was used in the calculation.

Recent immigrant households are more likely to be larger in size than Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households. Approximately one out of two recent immigrant households (51%) have one to three members, compared to three-quarters of Canadian-born households (77%). Thus, the proportion of households with four or more members is twice as large (49%) among recent immigrant households as among Canadian-born households (23%).

Most of the larger recent immigrant households have four or five members. Households where very recent immigrants live together with other Canadians are more likely than other households to be very large. One out of four such households have six or more members. The share of very large households among Canadian-born households is only two per cent.

Table C.9: Proportion of persons spending time on unpaid care of children and elders, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Care of children	Care of elders
Women		
Canadian-born	38%	17%
Immigrated before 1981	39%	18%
Immigrated 1981-1990	52%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	49%	14%
Men		
Canadian-born	30%	12%
Immigrated before 1981	33%	14%
Immigrated 1981-1990	42%	12%
Immigrated 1991-1996	39%	12%

The proportion of recent immigrants of 15 years or over reporting time spent on unpaid care of children is higher than the proportion of Canadian-born persons. On the other hand, the share of recent immigrants spending time on a regular basis to look after elder persons is smaller or not higher than the share of Canadian-born persons.

These numbers reflect differences in family and household structure. Families with children are more numerous among recent immigrants. The incidence of care of elders is lower among recent immigrants, even though extended families are more common. This suggests that recent immigrants have other reasons than care of elders for living in households larger than a nuclear family.

PART D: PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMY

Participation in the labour market

Labour force participation lower but increasing with length of stay

A person is in the labour force if he or she is employed or actively looking for work. Persons not in the labour force may be attending school, raising children, in retirement, or they may be unable or unwilling to seek employment for other reasons.

The rate of labour force participation varies by age and gender. Thus, differences in labour force participation between immigrants and the Canadian-born may be a result of differences in age-gender composition. As well, immigrants and the Canadian-born may show similar behaviour in some age-gender groups, and different behaviour in other groups. For both these reasons it is of interest to examine labour force participation by age and gender.

Table D.1: Labour force participation rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

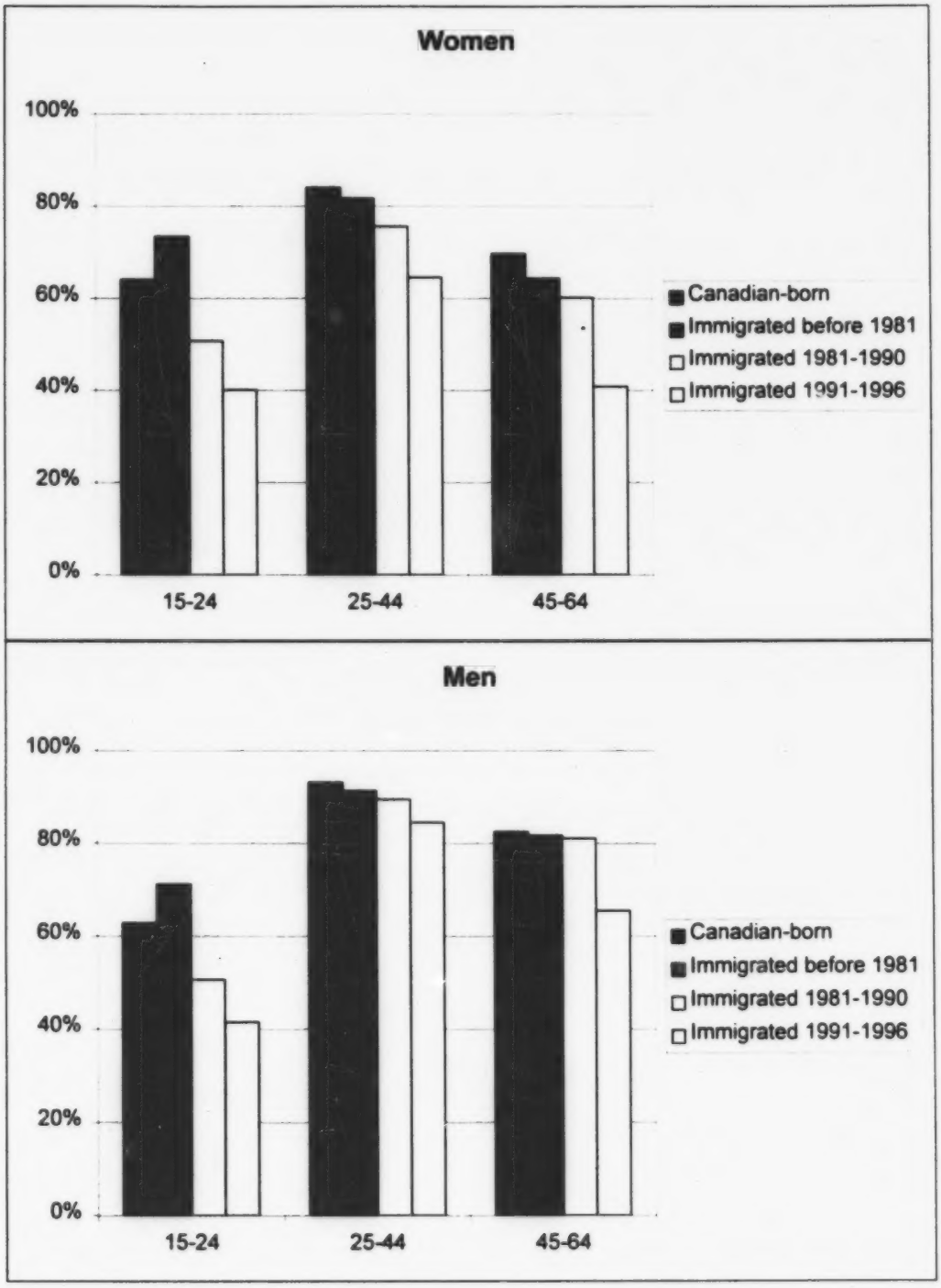
	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Labour Force
Women					
Canadian-born	64%	84%	70%	76%	567,800
Immigrated before 1981	73%	82%	64%	71%	253,100
Immigrated 1981-1990	51%	76%	60%	68%	127,500
Immigrated 1991-1996	40%	65%	41%	55%	100,100
Men					
Canadian-born	63%	93%	82%	83%	610,400
Immigrated before 1981	71%	91%	82%	85%	287,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	51%	89%	81%	81%	144,800
Immigrated 1991-1996	42%	85%	66%	71%	114,000

In the first few years after landing, immigrants participate in the labour market at lower rates than the Canadian-born, but over time the rates become quite similar. This pattern is evident in all three age groups, for both men and women.

The differences in labour force participation rates between the three groups of immigrants and the Canadian-born are smaller for men than for women. Men aged 45 to 64 who immigrated between 5 and 15 years prior to 1996 participate at nearly the same rate (81%) as the Canadian-born (82%), evidence of rapid adjustment. Men aged 25 to 44 enter the labour market in large numbers even in their first years in Canada.

While the labour force participation rates of immigrants converge to those of the Canadian-born over time, they do not quite reach the same level, with one exception: Young persons who immigrated before 1981 are more active in the labour market than the Canadian-born of the same age. This is a very small group, accounting for only a few per cent of earlier immigrants.

Figure D.1: Labour force participation rates by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



Pattern of adjustment similar for almost all levels of education

Just as labour force participation varies by age and gender, so it also varies by level of education. To better understand the reasons for differences between immigrants and the Canadian-born, participation rates are shown for different levels of education. Level of education is as reported by respondents, and pertains to the time of the census.

Table D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area 1996

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Total
Women						
Canadian-born	36%	54%	78%	84%	89%	76%
Immigrated before 1981	43%	62%	75%	81%	87%	71%
Immigrated 1981-1990	48%	51%	67%	81%	83%	68%
Immigrated 1991-1996	35%	39%	52%	70%	71%	55%
Men						
Canadian-born	58%	64%	86%	92%	93%	83%
Immigrated before 1981	70%	79%	86%	89%	92%	85%
Immigrated 1981-1990	77%	64%	78%	90%	90%	81%
Immigrated 1991-1996	65%	52%	69%	84%	84%	71%

Generally speaking, if persons are ranked by level of education, the higher the level of education the greater the proportion of people who participate in the labour market. This observation holds for the Canadian-born as well as for all three groups of immigrants, with only one exception. Men who immigrated after 1980 and who at the time of the 1996 census had only attended elementary school had a higher participation rate than those with some high school.

Among persons with a high school diploma or a post-secondary diploma or degree, recent immigrants participate in the labour market at a lower rate than the Canadian-born with the same education. For instance, women who immigrated in the 1980s and have high school diploma have a participation rate of 67 per cent, whereas their Canadian-born counterparts have a rate of 78 per cent. This difference of 11 percentage points in the labour force participation rates of women is larger than that for men with the same educational qualifications. A similar pattern of gender differences is found at other levels of education.

Over time, the behaviour of immigrants converges to that of Canadian-born persons. Immigrants who have been in the country for more than five years participate in the labour market in higher proportions than those who landed more recently.

For recent and earlier immigrants with elementary schooling a different pattern is evident. They participate in the labour market at a higher rate than the Canadian-born with the same education. The highest rate of participation is found among those who landed during the 1980s.

Figure D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

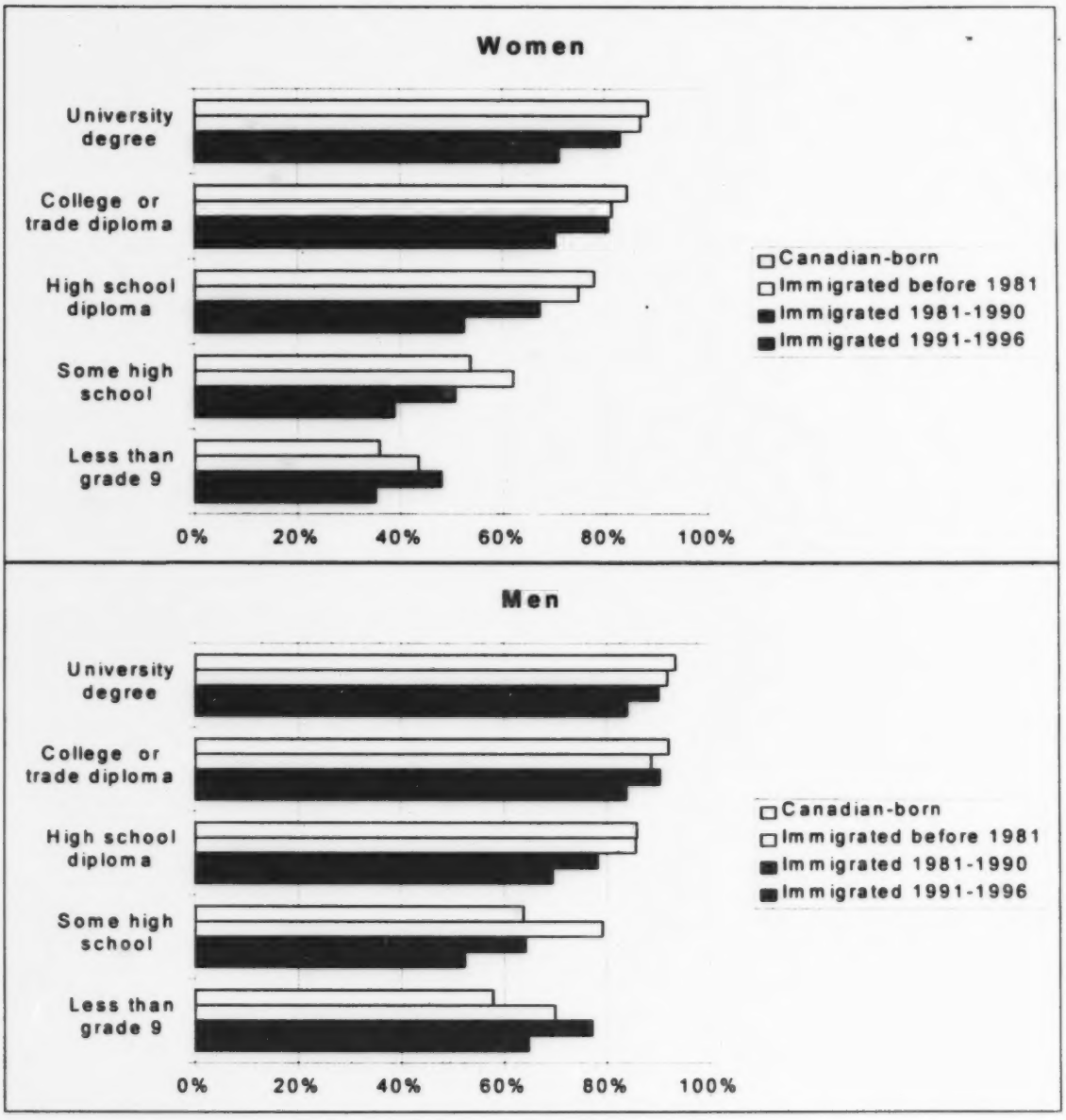


Table D.3: Labour force participation and knowledge of English of persons 15 to 64 years old, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Population share with no English	Labour force participation rate		
		No English	English	Total
Women				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	76%	76%
Immigrated before 1981	5%	33%	73%	71%
Immigrated 1981-1990	8%	43%	70%	68%
Immigrated 1991-1996	14%	34%	58%	55%
Men				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	83%	83%
Immigrated before 1981	3%	59%	85%	85%
Immigrated 1981-1990	5%	72%	81%	81%
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	58%	73%	71%

Most immigrants can converse in either English or French when they immigrate to Canada. As reported at the time of the 1996 census, the large majority of both men and women who immigrated during the 1990s and settled in Toronto speak English. Those that do not speak English are not nearly as active in the labour market as those who do. It is hardly surprising that knowledge of English is strongly associated with labour market behaviour. The effect – measured by the difference between the second and third column in the table – is even larger for earlier than for recent immigrants, and it is stronger for women than for men.

Labour force participation rates of immigrants are lower than they would be if all immigrants had command of English – as measured by the difference between the third and fourth column in the table. For the most recent immigrants, lack of English reduces the labour force participation rate by 3 per cent in the case of women (55% compared to 58%) and by 2 per cent for men (71% compared to 73%). Thus, lack of knowledge of English accounts for a small but definite part of the difference between the most recent immigrants and the Canadian-born.

Most immigrants who do not speak English at the time of immigration learn the language after arrival. Thus, lack of knowledge of English becomes less important as a barrier to labour force entry with prolonged stay in Canada. It remains a very high hurdle, but it affects fewer people.

Many factors may contribute to differences in labour force participation, and readers should not attribute differences only to the factor examined in any of the tables or charts. For instance, if many immigrants who do not speak English also have a below-average education, low labour force participation may be a result of low education rather than lack of English. To give another example, if lack of knowledge of English is highly associated with relatively high age (as may be the case with persons who immigrate after age 50 from non-English-speaking countries), then it may have only a small effect on labour force participation, because a number of these persons would not enter the labour market even if they did speak English. However, the table conveys an impression that is supported by further analysis. When education, age and gender, and knowledge of English were considered jointly, it was found that lack of knowledge of English has a clear, separate effect on participation rates that is close to the effect shown in the table.

Unemployment not uncommon during initial years

Like labour force participation, unemployment varies by age and gender, and also by level of education. Knowledge of English also has some effect. In this section, each of these aspects is examined in turn as the unemployment experience of immigrants and persons born in Canada is compared. Readers are reminded that differences in unemployment between groups may be related to a number of factors, and not only the one shown in a particular table.

Table D.4 provides a good illustration of how overall averages may not always reflect the underlying detail correctly. The overall unemployment rate for men who immigrated before 1981 is shown as being lower than the rate for Canadian-born men, while within each age group the opposite holds. This is a result of differences in age structure between the two groups.

Table D.4: Unemployment rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Unemployed
Women					
Canadian-born	15%	6%	5%	8%	42,900
Immigrated before 1981	18%	8%	7%	8%	19,700
Immigrated 1981-1990	22%	13%	12%	14%	17,500
Immigrated 1991-1996	26%	21%	22%	22%	21,800
Men					
Canadian-born	17%	6%	4%	8%	45,900
Immigrated before 1981	18%	7%	6%	7%	19,700
Immigrated 1981-1990	22%	9%	9%	10%	15,100
Immigrated 1991-1996	20%	14%	18%	15%	17,600

Immigrants are more likely to experience unemployment during their initial years in Canada than those who have been in the country for a longer period of time. For instance, males who landed in the 1990s and are living in Toronto experience unemployment rates from 14 to 20 per cent, depending on their age group, and females experience rates of 21 to 26 per cent. Unemployment is significantly lower among persons who immigrated during the 1980s, except for the youngest age group, but it is still higher than for the Canadian-born.

This suggests that one or more spells of unemployment may be a fairly common experience for immigrants during their initial years in Canada. This is particularly so during the first five years, when immigrants may not yet have secured steady jobs.

Table D.5: Unemployment rates by level of education, ages 15 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Total
Women						
Canadian-born	16%	12%	9%	6%	4%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	10%	10%	8%	7%	5%	8%
Immigrated 1981-1990	16%	20%	16%	12%	8%	14%
Immigrated 1991-1996	27%	27%	23%	19%	19%	22%
Men						
Canadian-born	12%	13%	9%	5%	4%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	10%	10%	8%	6%	4%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	12%	15%	13%	8%	7%	10%
Immigrated 1991-1996	18%	18%	16%	14%	14%	15%

The adjustment pattern just examined occurs at all levels of education. For instance, men who immigrated during the 1990s and who have a high school diploma have an unemployment rate of 16 per cent. The rate drops to 13 per cent for immigrants who landed during the 1980s.

Immigrant women experience more unemployment than men during the first five years in Canada, irrespective of their education level, and also during the next ten years. The gap between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born is also larger for women than for men, again for any level of education.

The adjustment process appears to be shorter in the case of immigrants with only elementary schooling than for those with more education. This suggests that it takes time for better educated immigrants to find steady employment at a level that corresponds to their level of education. After the adjustment period, however, more educated immigrants experience less unemployment than the less educated.

Table D.6: Unemployment and knowledge of English, persons 15 to 64 years old, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Population share with no English	Unemployment rate		
		No English	English	Total
Women				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	8%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	5%	12%	8%	8%
Immigrated 1981-1990	8%	18%	13%	14%
Immigrated 1991-1996	14%	27%	21%	22%
Men				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	8%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	3%	15%	7%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	5%	11%	10%	10%
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	19%	15%	15%

Recent immigrants who do not speak English are more likely to be unemployed than those that do. The difference in unemployment rates between those who speak English and those who do not varies from 1 to 8 percentage points, depending on gender and period of immigration. It occurs among earlier immigrants as well as among recent immigrants. These are not large differences compared to the effect of language on participation rates examined above. Knowledge of English is far more important to the decision to seek employment than to the risk of losing it.

Thus, lack of knowledge of English is not a major reason for higher unemployment among recent immigrants. This is so because the proportion of immigrants who do not speak English is small, and their unemployment rate is higher by a small margin.

Table D.7: Employment ratio of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Employed
Women					
Canadian-born	55%	79%	66%	70%	524,900
Immigrated before 1981	60%	75%	60%	66%	233,400
Immigrated 1981-1990	40%	66%	53%	59%	110,000
Immigrated 1991-1996	30%	51%	32%	43%	78,400
Men					
Canadian-born	52%	88%	79%	77%	564,600
Immigrated before 1981	58%	85%	76%	79%	267,500
Immigrated 1981-1990	40%	82%	74%	72%	129,700
Immigrated 1991-1996	33%	73%	54%	60%	96,400

Less than one half of women of working age who immigrated during 1991 to 1996 are employed, and 60 per cent of men. For immigrants who landed during the 1980s the proportions are 59 per cent for women and 72 per cent for men. As shown in the previous pages, these differences in employment ratios reflect mainly differences in labour force participation rates.

For earlier immigrants the ratios are higher than for recent immigrants, but not as high as for the Canadian-born, except in the youngest age group. (The higher overall ratio for men results from the large share of men aged 45 to 64 among earlier immigrants.) Immigrants do not quite catch up to the Canadian-born after 15 years, perhaps because adjustment takes longer, or because of different preferences, or because the jobs of immigrants are less secure than those of the Canadian-born during a period when jobs are not in ample supply.

Part-time jobs more common for very recent immigrants aged 25 to 64

Part-time employment is defined as having worked less than 30 hours per week during most of the weeks worked in the year 1995. Because the information relates to the entire year 1995, only persons who landed before 1995 are included among the most recent immigrants.

The share of part-time employment for the 15-64 age group is the average of the shares for the three age groups, weighted by the relative size of each age group. Because the age-specific rates vary so much, differences in age structure can have a major effect on the overall rate. The fact that immigrants who arrived before the 1980s are concentrated in the higher age groups gives them a low share of part-time employment compared to other groups. When the comparison is made for each age group, it becomes clear that these earlier immigrants are not very different from other groups with respect to the rate of part-time employment.

Table D.8: Part-time employment as a share of employment, by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995

	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	15-64
Women				
Canadian-born	62%	20%	23%	30%
Immigrated before 1981	56%	18%	20%	20%
Immigrated 1981-1990	63%	19%	20%	25%
Immigrated 1991-1994	52%	24%	26%	28%
Men				
Canadian-born	54%	7%	7%	17%
Immigrated before 1981	48%	7%	6%	8%
Immigrated 1981-1990	55%	8%	8%	13%
Immigrated 1991-1994	46%	11%	14%	17%

The proportion of employed persons who work part-time varies considerably by age and gender. Half or more of employed young adults work part-time, mainly because many also attend school. About 20 per cent of employed women aged 25 to 64, not including the most recent immigrants, work part-time, while for men the share is around 7 per cent.

Part-time employment is as common among immigrants who landed in the 1980s as among the Canadian-born, while being somewhat less common among earlier immigrants. However, immigrants of 25 to 64 years who landed in the 1990s are more likely to be employed part-time than those who have lived in the country for a longer period of time. This suggests that part-time employment is a way for some new immigrants to enter the work force.

The situation is different for younger newly landed immigrants, those aged 15 to 24. They are less often employed part-time than earlier immigrants and the Canadian-born of the same age and gender.

Many employed recent immigrants in sales and services, processing occupations

Occupations are subdivided into six broad groups based on the 1991 Standard Occupational Classification, as follows:

(1) Sales and services	Sales and service occupations
(2) Processing	Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities
	Occupations unique to primary industry
(3) Administrative	Business, finance and administrative occupations
(4) Management and social	Occupations in social science, education, government services and religion
	Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport
	Management occupations
(5) Trades, transport	Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations
(6) Health, science	Health occupations
	Natural and applied sciences and related occupations

In examining the jobs of immigrants, the focus is on persons 25 to 64 years old. Younger people are not considered since many of them are still in school, and their jobs tend to be short-term and part-time and are less likely to be related to their education and career choices than the jobs of older adults.

Table D.9: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

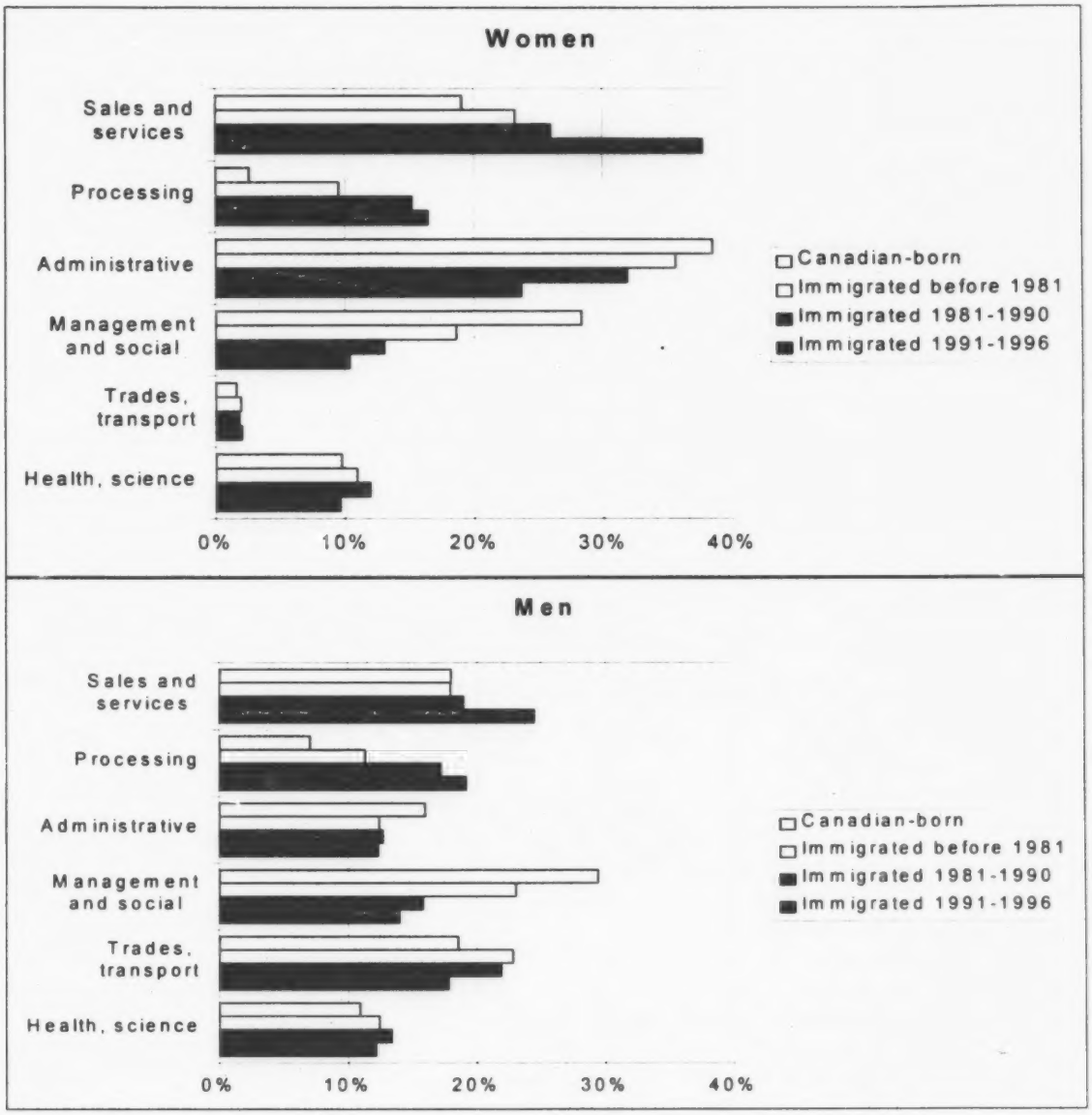
	Sales and services	Processing	Adminis-trative	Management and social	Trades, transport	Health, science	Total employed
Women							
Canadian-born	19%	3%	39%	28%	2%	10%	424,000
Immigrated before 1981	23%	10%	36%	19%	2%	11%	225,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	26%	15%	32%	13%	2%	12%	97,000
Immigrated 1991-1996	38%	16%	24%	10%	2%	10%	67,200
Men							
Canadian-born	18%	7%	16%	29%	19%	11%	464,400
Immigrated before 1981	18%	11%	12%	23%	23%	12%	259,700
Immigrated 1981-1990	19%	17%	13%	16%	22%	13%	116,500
Immigrated 1991-1996	25%	19%	12%	14%	18%	12%	84,700

Employed immigrants are more likely than their Canadian-born counterparts to work in sales and service and processing jobs, particularly so if they immigrated during the 1990s. Close to half of employed immigrants who have been in the country for 5 years or less are employed in sales and service and processing jobs, compared to one-quarter (men) or less (women) of the Canadian-born.

By contrast, administrative and management and social occupations, which are favoured by the Canadian-born, account for a smaller share of the jobs of very recent immigrants. In trades and transport occupations, and also in health and science occupations, immigrants and the Canadian-born are more or less equally represented.

There are probably many factors that contribute to these patterns, including the selection of immigrants and their level and field of education. But the choice of occupation by immigrants also reflects adjustment to the economy and barriers to entry into professions and trades. Many new immigrants probably find it easier to obtain employment in sales and services and in processing jobs than in other occupations.

Figure D.3: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Many employed recent immigrants in manufacturing and hospitality sector

Industries are subdivided into six broad groups based on the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification, as follows:	
Manufacturing	Primary industries and manufacturing
Construction & Transportation	Construction, transportation and storage, and communications
Trade	Wholesale and retail trade
Business services	Finance, insurance, real estate operators and insurance, and business services
Public sector	Government services, education and health services
Hospitality and other services	Accommodation, food and beverage industries, and other services

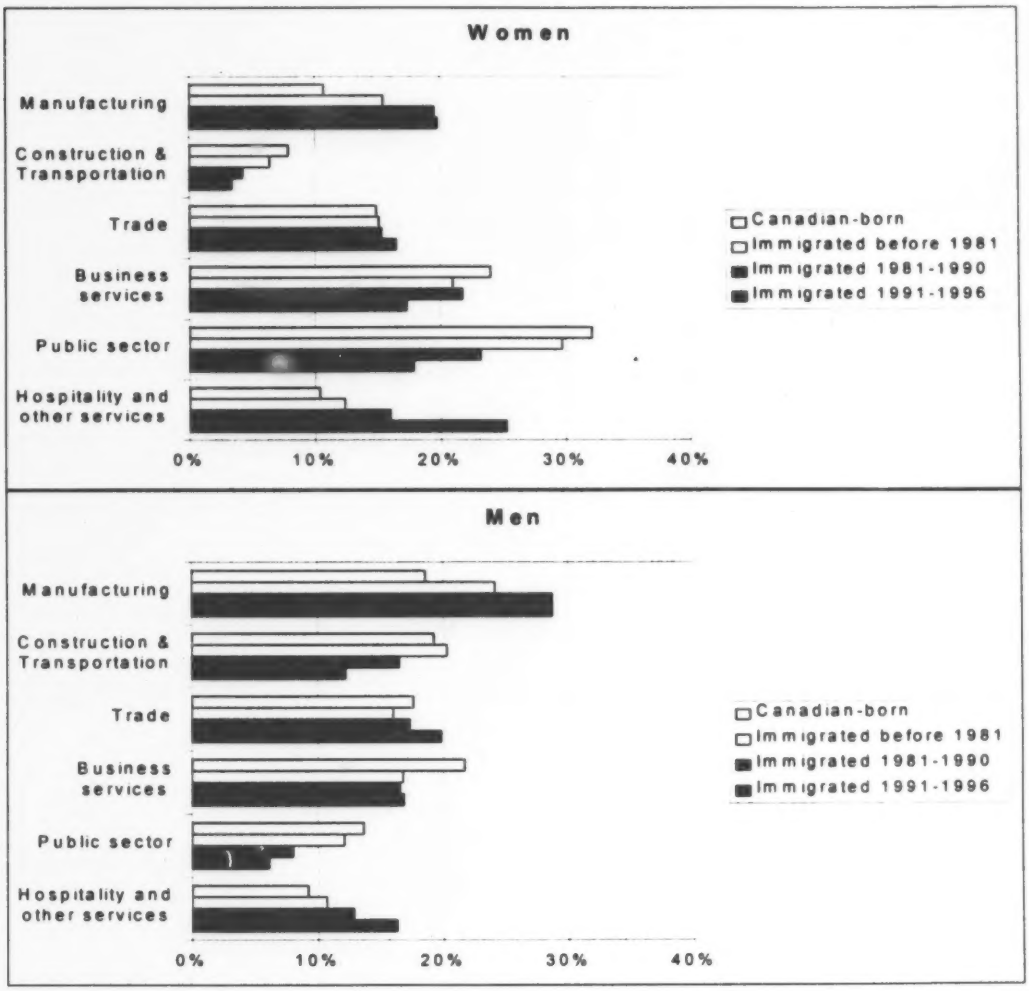
In the greater Toronto area, a large proportion of the jobs of recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 are in manufacturing and in hospitality and other services. By contrast, construction and transportation, business services, and the public sector account for a smaller share of jobs of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born. The industrial distribution of employment of earlier immigrants is closer to that of the Canadian-born.

Table D.10: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Manufacturing	Construction & Transportation	Trade	Business services	Public sector	Hospitality and other services
Women						
Canadian-born	11%	8%	15%	24%	32%	10%
Immigrated before 1981	15%	6%	15%	21%	30%	12%
Immigrated 1981-1990	20%	4%	15%	22%	23%	16%
Immigrated 1991-1996	20%	3%	16%	17%	18%	25%
Men						
Canadian-born	19%	19%	18%	22%	14%	9%
Immigrated before 1981	24%	20%	16%	17%	12%	11%
Immigrated 1981-1990	29%	17%	17%	17%	8%	13%
Immigrated 1991-1996	29%	12%	20%	17%	6%	16%

The jobs of young Canadian-born people in the Toronto area - who, like recent immigrants, are recent entrants into the labour market - are more concentrated in the trade sector and in hospitality and other services than those of recent immigrants aged 25 to 64. Each of these two industry groups provides between one-quarter and one-third of the jobs of Canadian-born aged 15 to 24 (not shown). By contrast, the manufacturing and business services sectors each account for a larger share of employment of recent immigrants than of the young Canadian-born. Thus, with regard to the distribution of jobs by industries, recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 occupy a middle position between Canadian-born of the same age and younger Canadian-born.

Figure D.4: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Skill requirements of jobs of recent immigrants lower

The tables and charts in this and the next section show the shares of jobs grouped by four levels of skill, level 4 being the highest and level 1 the lowest, as follows:

Level 1: Short work demonstration; no formal education required.
Level 2: Secondary school plus a period of specific job training.
Level 3: College level education or trade apprenticeship required.
Level 4: University education required.

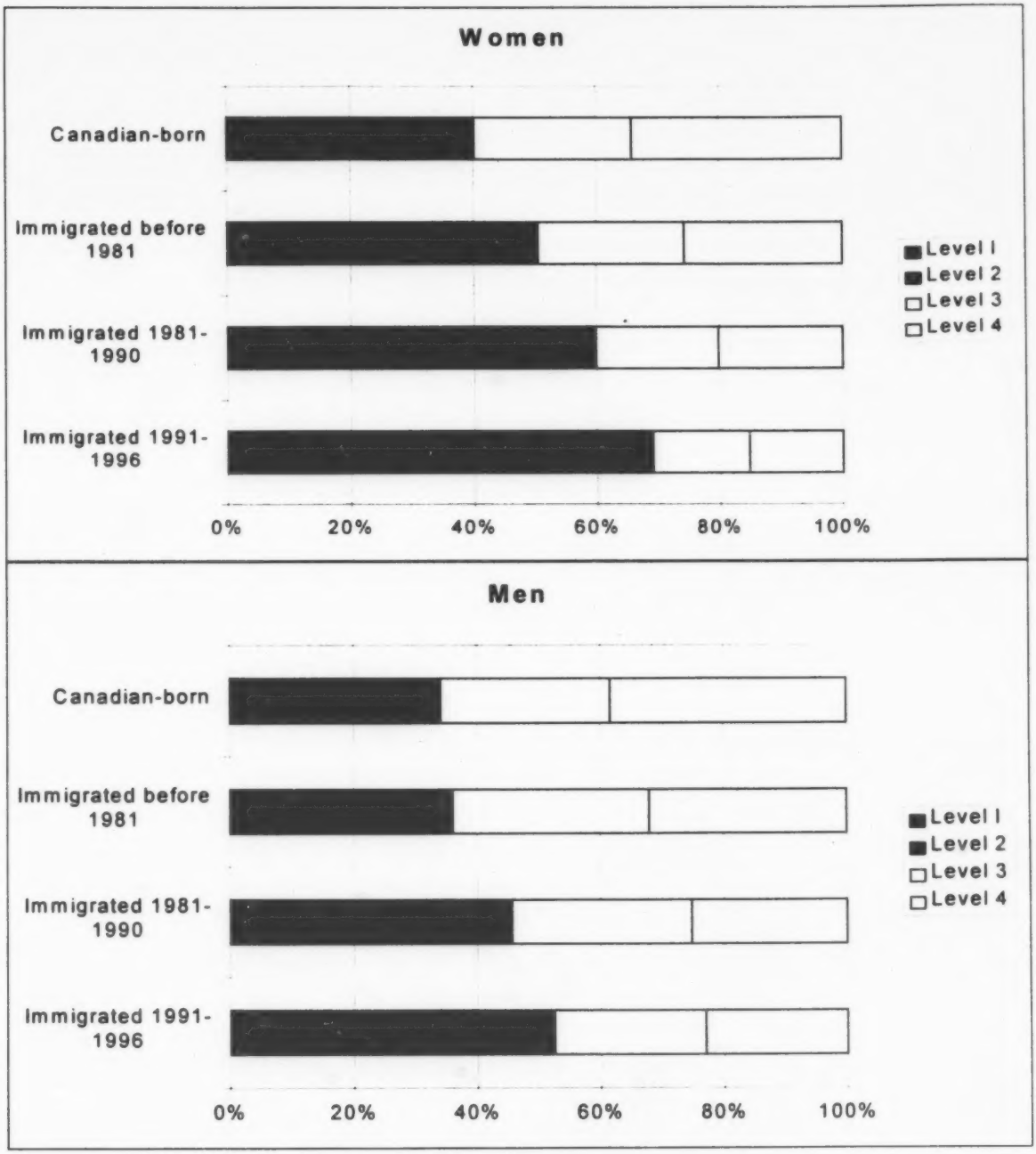
Table D.11: Employment by level of skill, women and men aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Women				
Canadian-born	5%	35%	26%	34%
Immigrated before 1981	10%	40%	24%	26%
Immigrated 1981-1990	15%	45%	20%	20%
Immigrated 1991-1996	20%	49%	16%	15%
Men				
Canadian-born	7%	27%	28%	38%
Immigrated before 1981	9%	27%	32%	32%
Immigrated 1981-1990	12%	34%	29%	25%
Immigrated 1991-1996	17%	36%	24%	23%

The jobs of recent immigrants require lower skills than the jobs of the Canadian-born. Two in five jobs of Canadian-born men (38%) require the highest level of skill, a university education. For men who landed after 1990, only one-quarter jobs (23%) require a university education. There is a larger gap for women than for men between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born in the skill requirements of their jobs.

For both men and women, the skill content of jobs of earlier immigrants is similar to that of the Canadian-born, although for women it is not quite as high. As with many other aspects of labour market activity and employment, this suggests the situation of immigrants approaches the situation of the Canadian-born as their stay in Canada lengthens.

Figure D.5: Employment by skill level, women and men aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Education of recent immigrants not fully utilised

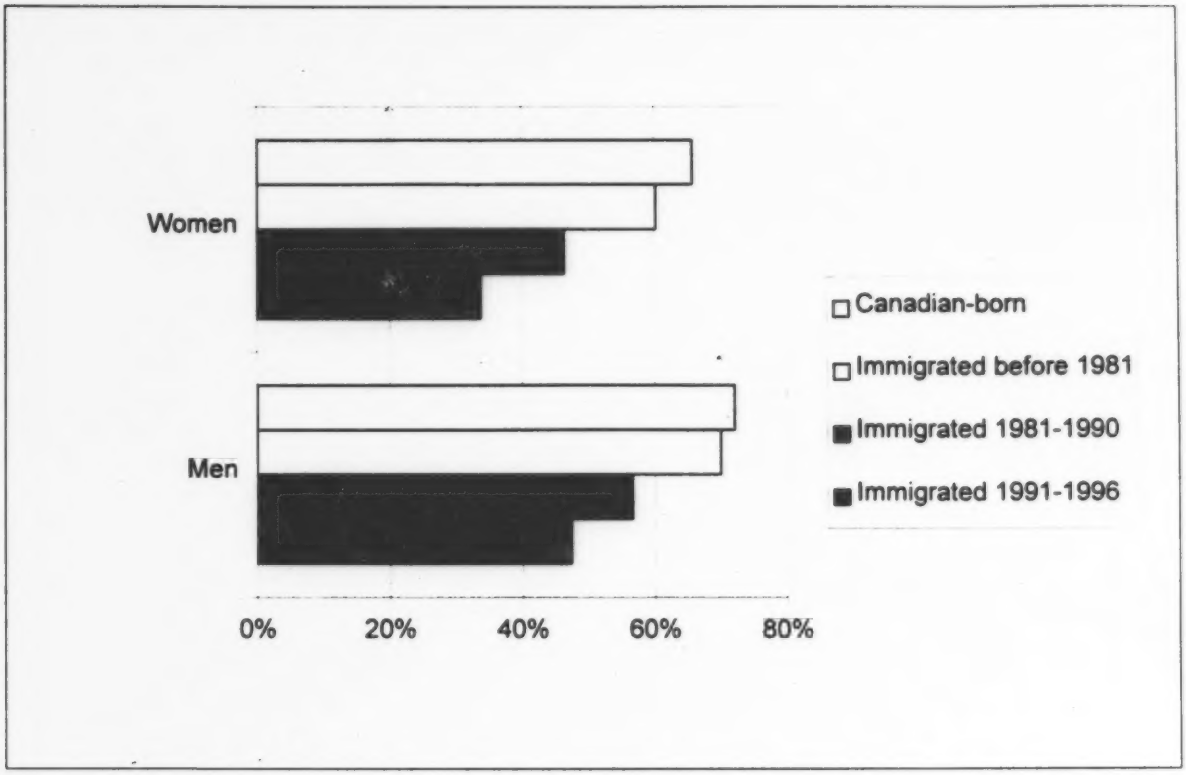
As there are differences in educational attainment between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born, the information presented above about skill levels of jobs does not directly indicate whether skills of recent immigrants are fully or less than fully employed in the economy. To do so, one has to compare the skill levels of jobs of recent immigrants and the Canadian-born for a given level of education. This is done in Table D.12 for persons holding a university degree, and can be done in the same way for other levels of educational attainment. The four skill levels are defined in the box above Table D.11.

Table D.12: Skill levels of jobs of university graduates, women and men aged 25 to 64, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Women				
Canadian-born	1%	16%	17%	66%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	20%	19%	60%
Immigrated 1981-1990	5%	29%	20%	46%
Immigrated 1991-1996	12%	36%	19%	34%
Men				
Canadian-born	1%	12%	15%	72%
Immigrated before 1981	2%	12%	16%	70%
Immigrated 1981-1990	4%	19%	20%	57%
Immigrated 1991-1996	10%	23%	19%	47%

The jobs of recent immigrants with a university degree do not require the same level of skill as the jobs of the Canadian-born. Two-thirds of employed Canadian-born women with a university degree (66%) have a job requiring a university degree. But only one-third of employed women who immigrated in the 1990s (34%) have a job at that level. Almost three-quarters of Canadian-born men with a university degree (72%) have a job requiring a university education. But less than half the jobs of the most recently immigrated men with a university degree are at that level.

Figure D.6: Proportion of workers with a university degree who have a job requiring a university education, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



PART E: INCOME

Sources and level of income

Sources of income show effect of migration

In this section, three broad sources of income are distinguished:

(1) Employment income, consisting of wages and salaries or income from self-employment;
(2) Other private income, consisting of investment income (mainly interest and dividends), retirement income and income from all other private sources; and
(3) Transfers from government, including Unemployment Insurance benefits, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits, Old Age Security benefits and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and other benefits such as workers' compensation and social assistance. Also included are the Child Tax Benefit, refunds of the Goods and Services Tax, and provincial tax credits.

A person may have income from one, two or all three sources. Income reported in the 1996 census is income for the year 1995, of persons 15 years of age and over. Most immigrants who landed during or after 1995 have not had the full year 1995 to obtain income in Canada, and are therefore not included.

Table E.1: Persons with income by source and without income, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995 (as a percentage of the population of 15 years and over)

	No income	Employment income	Other private income	Government transfers	Number of persons
Women					
Canadian-born	8%	69%	33%	55%	859,200
Immigrated before 1981	7%	57%	34%	62%	465,600
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	61%	19%	57%	207,100
Immigrated 1991-1994	21%	51%	17%	57%	151,000
Men					
Canadian-born	6%	78%	29%	63%	811,100
Immigrated before 1981	1%	70%	35%	76%	429,300
Immigrated 1981-1990	6%	75%	17%	77%	193,600
Immigrated 1991-1994	9%	67%	17%	80%	131,500

Income from employment is the most common source of income for the Canadian-born. Sixty-nine per cent of Canadian-born women and 78 per cent of Canadian-born men had earnings from employment in 1995. A larger share of the Canadian-born than of immigrants have income from employment. For immigrants who arrived before the 1980s the proportion with employment earnings is low because they tend to be older and many are in retirement. The low share of recent immigrants with employment income reflects lower participation in the workforce.

Compared to the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants, the proportion of recent immigrants with no income is large. However, the proportion of immigrated men and women who do not have income decreases significantly with length of stay in Canada, and ultimately falls below that of the Canadian-born.

The share of recent immigrants with other private income – income from investments, pension plans etc. – is well below the share of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. This probably reflects the relatively young age of most recent immigrants, and lower savings related to the cost of and income loss associated with moving to a different country.

There are proportionately somewhat more recent immigrants than Canadian-born persons, particularly men, who receive some form of transfer from government. The high proportion of earlier immigrants receiving transfers from government reflects the high share of seniors in this group, who generally receive Old Age Security and Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits.

Average income increases with length of stay

In Tables E.2 and E.3 in this section on sources and level of income, average income refers to income of persons with income, and excludes persons who report no income. The proportion of persons who report no income is given in Table E.1. In the next section on the distribution of income, which includes tables E.5 and E.6, average income refers to income of all persons, families or households, including those with no income.

Table E.2: Level of income and distribution of income by source, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995

		Income by source (percent of total)		
	Average income of persons with income	Employment income	Other private income	Government transfers
Women				
Canadian-born	$25,800	77%	12%	11%
Immigrated before 1981	$23,800	70%	12%	18%
Immigrated 1981-1990	$17,900	80%	5%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1994	$12,600	75%	8%	17%
Men				
Canadian-born	$39,500	84%	10%	6%
Immigrated before 1981	$37,200	78%	11%	11%
Immigrated 1981-1990	$25,900	87%	4%	9%
Immigrated 1991-1994	$18,900	81%	6%	13%

Among persons who reported having income during the year 1995, the average income of recent immigrants is lower than that of other Canadians. For very recent immigrants, average income is slightly less than one-half of that of the Canadian-born; those who immigrated during the 1980s have reached two-thirds of that level; and the earlier immigrants have attained more than 90 per cent of the average income of people born in Canada. The relative levels and patterns are approximately the same for both genders, while average income of men is about 50 per cent higher than that of women. Among the reasons for the difference in income between men and women are lower labour force participation and higher incidence of part-time work and of jobs requiring a lower level of skill among women than among men, as shown in Part D.

Earnings from employment make up about the same proportion of income of recent immigrants as of persons born in Canada. By contrast, transfers from government make up a larger share of the income of recent immigrants than of others. This is not because the transfers to recent immigrants are high, but because the total income of recent immigrants is relatively low. Other private income is low for recent immigrants, as a share of income, and also as an amount.

Table E.3: Wage and salary income of persons who worked mostly full-time, as a percentage of the overall average, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995

	Amount	Percentage of overall average
Canadian-born	$40,100	110%
Immigrated before 1981	$38,500	105%
Immigrated 1981-1990	$28,300	78%
Immigrated 1991-1994	$21,000	58%
All who worked mostly full time	$36,500	100%

The wages and salaries earned by immigrants who worked mostly full-time in 1995 are well below the Toronto average. As was shown in the previous section, recent immigrants generally have jobs that require lower skills than the jobs of the Canadian-born, and would therefore generally receive lower rates of pay. As well, annual earnings depend on whether a person was employed throughout the year or not. It is likely that recent immigrants more often do not have steady, year-round jobs than the Canadian-born.

Transfers from government a larger share of household income, except for seniors

To examine transfers from governments more closely, this section focuses on households. Households are classified according to the presence of immigrants and recent immigrants in the same way as in Part C. However, only immigrants who landed before 1995 are considered here. All households with immigrants who landed during 1995 and 1996 have been excluded. As transfers from government vary considerably with the age of the recipient, households are classified by age.

Defining "Age of household"
By age of household is meant the age of a principal person in the household. The age of family households is the age of the older of the spouses or the lone parent in the family. For non-family households, age refers to the age of the oldest person in the household.

Table E.4: Transfers from government to households, by age of household, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995

	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	All households
Share of households receiving transfers					
Canadian-born households	94%	77%	77%	100%	82%
Earlier immigrant households	95%	81%	85%	100%	88%
Recent immigrant households	92%	92%	94%	100%	93%
1980s immigrants	*92%*	*90%*	*91%*	*99%*	*91%*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*99%*	*91%*	*96%*	*100%*	*94%*
1991-94 immigrants only	*91%*	*97%*	*98%*	*99%*	*97%*
Average amount of transfer per receiving household					
Canadian-born households	$3,800	$3,800	$4,600	$14,900	$6,600
Earlier immigrant households	$4,400	$4,800	$5,600	$16,400	$8,900
Recent immigrant households	$4,700	$5,300	$5,700	$11,300	$6,100
1980s immigrants	*$4,800*	*$5,100*	*$5,700*	*$12,700*	*$6,200*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*$4,700*	*$5,600*	*$6,700*	*$12,000*	*$6,900*
1991-94 immigrants only	*$4,600*	*$5,500*	*$5,300*	*$6,700*	*$5,500*
Transfers from government as a share of average household income					
Canadian-born households	16%	5%	4%	31%	8%
Earlier immigrant households	13%	6%	6%	35%	12%
Recent immigrant households	26%	11%	10%	23%	12%
1980s immigrants	*26%*	*9%*	*9%*	*26%*	*11%*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*14%*	*9%*	*9%*	*16%*	*10%*
1991-94 immigrants only	*33%*	*18%*	*14%*	*21%*	*17%*

In 1995, the large majority of households received transfers from government. Almost all households with persons of 65 years of age and older received such transfers – Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits. But more than three out of four households without seniors received some income from a government program, whether from Unemployment Insurance, Workers Compensation, social assistance, student assistance, or other programs.

Recent immigrant households were more likely to receive a transfer from a government than other households. These households were probably more in need of assistance from government during the early years after arriving in Canada, when many recent immigrants were not yet fully participating in the economy. As well, recent immigrant households are relatively large, and thus are likely to receive higher amounts of transfers either because more members are entitled to benefits like unemployment insurance payments or because of greater need. On the other hand, recent immigrant households would not have had time to build up significant entitlements under the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans.

The average payment received varies considerably by age of household. Households of Canadian-born seniors and of seniors who immigrated before 1981 received an average payment in the order of $15,000 or more. Households of recently immigrated seniors on average received less than households of Canadian-born seniors.

Other households received from $3,800 to $6,700. Households of recent immigrants in the 25-64 age group had a higher probability of receiving government transfers, and also received a higher average amount than households of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants.

Government transfers make up a smaller share of income of the households of recently immigrated seniors (23%) than of Canadian-born seniors (31%). For other households such transfers make up approximately twice as large a share of the income of recent immigrants as of the Canadian-born.

Personal income approaches parity and similar distribution over time

Table E.5: Distribution of personal income, persons 15 years and over, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution)

	Without income	$1 to $10,000	$10,000 to $30,000	$30,000 to $50,000	over $50,000	Average income
Women						
Canadian-born	8%	24%	35%	22%	11%	$23,600
Immigrated before 1981	7%	22%	44%	20%	8%	$22,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	31%	39%	13%	3%	$15,400
Immigrated 1991-1994	21%	40%	34%	5%	1%	$10,000
Men						
Canadian-born	6%	20%	26%	24%	24%	$37,300
Immigrated before 1981	1%	14%	35%	27%	23%	$37,000
Immigrated 1981-1990	6%	26%	35%	23%	11%	$24,400
Immigrated 1991-1994	9%	34%	40%	14%	4%	$17,300

Of very recent immigrants, 61 per cent of women and 43 per cent of men reported no income or income of less than $10,000 in 1995. The share reporting no income is lower for persons who immigrated during the 1980s. And the share of persons without income is even lower for earlier immigrants, who also report income below $10,000 in much smaller proportions than recent immigrants.

At the high end of the income scale, recent immigrants and especially very recent immigrants are underrepresented. The proportion with incomes over $50,000 is less than half as large among immigrants who landed during the 1980s as among the Canadian-born.

If the circumstances of earlier immigrants can be taken as an indication of what recent immigrants can be expected to achieve with time, then a general, widespread upward shift can be expected in incomes of persons who immigrated during the 1980s and 1990s in years to come.

The incomes of earlier immigrants are distributed more or less like those of the Canadian-born, although they are concentrated more in the lower middle range of $10,000 to $30,000. In part this reflects the fact that many earlier immigrants are seniors receiving old age benefits. In any event, the income distribution of immigrants appears to come close to that of the Canadian-born over time.

Distribution of household income becomes very similar

Table E.6: Distribution of household income, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution)

Households	$0 to $20,000	$20,000 to $40,000	$40,000 to $60,000	$60,000 to $80,000	Over $80,000	Average income
Canadian-born	17%	21%	20%	16%	26%	$64,300
Earlier immigrants	16%	21%	19%	16%	28%	$64,300
Recent immigrants	24%	26%	21%	14%	16%	$48,700
1980s immigrants	*22%*	*23%*	*21%*	*16%*	*19%*	*$52,400*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*9%*	*22%*	*25%*	*18%*	*26%*	*$65,500*
1991-94 immigrants only	*37%*	*34%*	*17%*	*7%*	*5%*	*$32,100*

In 1995, recent immigrant households had average income of $48,700 or just over three-quarters of the income of Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households. The income of households consisting only of very recent immigrants is only one half of the income of households of the Canadian-born.

Thus, recent immigrant households are found in larger numbers in the lower income ranges. One half of these households have incomes of less than $40,000, compared to less than forty per cent of other households (38% of Canadian-born and 37% of earlier immigrant households). The income of one-quarter (24%) of recent immigrant households is less than $20,000, compared to one sixth of other households (17% and 16%). Approximately the opposite proportions are found at incomes over $80,000.

Earlier immigrant households on average have the same level of income as Canadian-born households, and their incomes are distributed in much the same way as those of Canadian-born households.

Four in ten very recent immigrants in low income situation

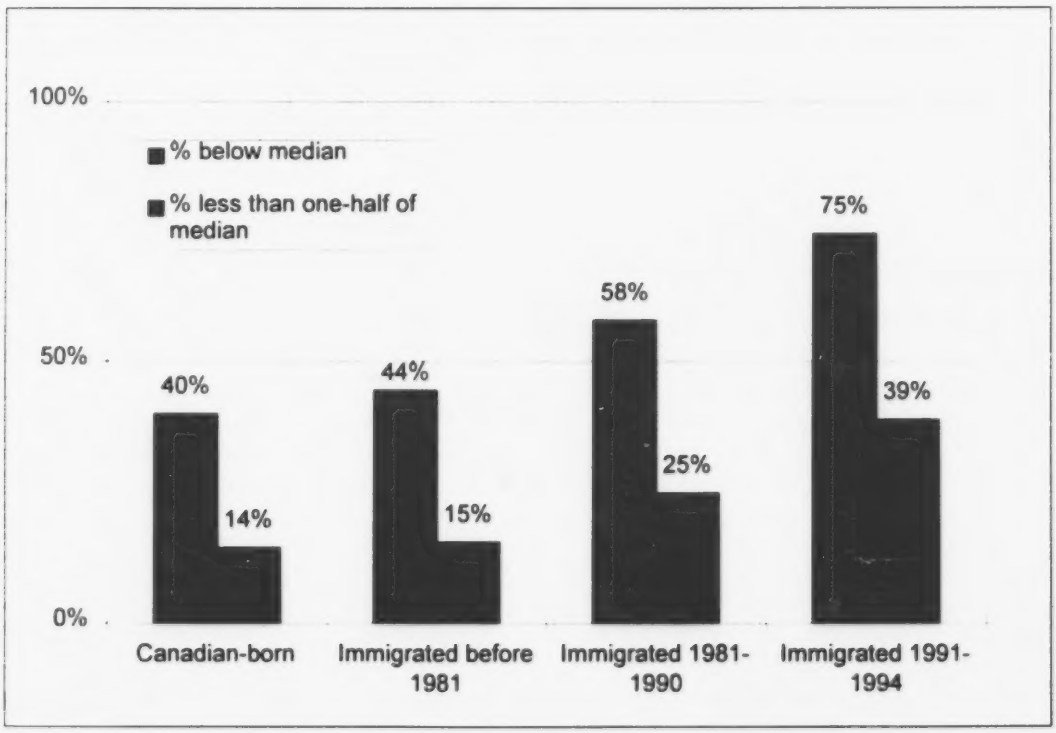
One way of examining income inequality is to see whether persons in certain groups are more likely than persons in other groups to have incomes that fall below the overall median income. The median income is the middle income when incomes are ordered by size, from high to low. One-half of incomes are higher, one-half are lower. And to measure more severe inequality, the percentage of incomes falling below one-half of the median income is examined.

Figure E.1 and Table E.7 show the percentage of people with income below the median. For people living in families, the family income was compared to the median family income. For non-family persons – much smaller in number, particularly among recent immigrants – their individual income was compared to the median income of all non-family persons. Unattached individuals under 15 years of age are not included as no income data is available. The proportion of persons with income below one-half of the median, shown in Figure E.1 and Table E.8, was derived in the same way.

In Toronto in 1995, the median income of all families (defined as two or more persons related by blood, marriage, common-law status or adoption, and living together in the same household) was $56,937. For individuals not living in families, median income was $22,753.

As family size has not been considered in these calculations, and as larger families are likely to have higher income (but not necessarily higher income per member of the family), the number of persons in the total population living in families with income below the median is less than 50 per cent. 47 per cent of women and 44 per cent of men live in families with income below the median. 18 per cent of women and 17 per cent of men live in families with income below one half of the median.

Figure E.1: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median and below one-half of the median, as a percentage of the population, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995



Recent immigrants are more likely than earlier immigrants and the Canadian-born to live in families with incomes that fall below the overall median, or if they do not live in families, to have income below the median for unattached individuals. They are also more likely to live in families with incomes that fall below one-half of the median income. The percentage of immigrants with income in the bottom half or quarter of the income distribution declines in relation to their length of stay in Canada.

Table E.7: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995

	Under 15	15 to 24	25 to 64	65 and over	All persons
Women					
Canadian-born	47%	41%	34%	58%	41%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	46%	41%	65%	47%
Immigrated 1981-1990	60%	63%	58%	60%	59%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	81%	77%	74%	63%	75%
Men					
Canadian-born	48%	37%	31%	54%	39%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	42%	36%	63%	42%
Immigrated 1981-1990	63%	58%	55%	62%	57%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	81%	77%	72%	64%	74%

The proportion of people with income below the median varies with age. For the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants, the highest proportions are found among seniors. But this is not so for the most recent immigrants, where incomes below the median are more common at younger ages. Persons who immigrated during the 1980s occupy a middle ground.

In all age groups the proportion of persons with income below the overall median is higher among recent immigrants than among the Canadian-born. However, the differences are much greater for people of working age than for seniors. This probably reflects programs of income support for seniors as well as extended-family arrangements that are relatively common for recently immigrated seniors.

Table E.8: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below one-half of the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995

	Under 15	15 to 24	25 to 64	65 and over	All persons
Women					
Canadian-born	20%	17%	12%	12%	15%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	20%	15%	19%	16%
Immigrated 1981-1990	25%	30%	25%	28%	26%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	45%	41%	38%	33%	40%
Men					
Canadian-born	19%	14%	10%	15%	14%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	17%	12%	24%	14%
Immigrated 1981-1990	28%	26%	21%	33%	23%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	44%	42%	35%	36%	38%

Four in ten very recent immigrants (40% of women and 38% of men) live in a low income situation. The share of recently immigrated seniors is approximately one-third. This share is 20 to 25 percentage points higher than among the Canadian-born, a difference that is similar to that in other age groups. The share of the most recent immigrants with income below one-half of the overall median income ranges from one-third to 45 per cent depending on age and gender. This share drops to 20 to 30 per cent for immigrants who landed during the 1980s.

PART F: HOUSING

Crowded accommodation more common for recent immigrants

In Tables F.1 and F.2, a room is defined as an enclosed area within a dwelling that is suitable for year-round living: a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or a finished room in attic or basement. Not counted as rooms are bathrooms, halls, vestibules and spaces used solely for business purposes. Accommodation is defined as "crowded" when there are more persons in the household than rooms in the dwelling, i.e. when there is more than one person per room.

Table F.1: Number of persons per room, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Fewer than 0.5 persons	0.5 to 0.74 persons	0.75 to 0.99 persons	1 or more persons	Number of households
Canadian-born	64%	28%	4%	4%	631,000
Earlier immigrants	56%	33%	6%	6%	495,000
Recent immigrants	20%	33%	14%	34%	351,000
1980s immigrants	25%	37%	14%	24%	170,000
1990s immigrants with others	14%	30%	16%	39%	78,000
1990s immigrants only	15%	27%	13%	46%	102,000

Households of recent immigrants have space per person that is well below the average in the Toronto area. One-third of recent immigrant households live in crowded conditions (i.e. have more than one person per room). The incidence of crowding is particularly high among households consisting only of very recent immigrants (46%). By contrast, crowding is very rare among households of the Canadian-born (4%) and earlier immigrants (6%).

Table F.2: Persons per room and size of household, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Household size	Type of household	Fewer than 0.5 persons	0.5 to 0.74 persons	0.75 to 0.99 persons	1 or more persons	Number of households
1 to 3 persons	Canadian-born	75%	20%	2%	3%	489,000
	Earlier immigrants	73%	21%	2%	4%	326,000
	Recent immigrants	32%	35%	10%	22%	178,000
	1980s immigrants	*41%*	*35%*	*8%*	*16%*	89,000
	1990s immigrants with others	*26%*	*38%*	*12%*	*23%*	33,000
	1990s immigrants only	*23%*	*33%*	*11%*	*33%*	56,000
4 or 5 persons	Canadian-born	29%	59%	9%	4%	130,000
	Earlier immigrants	25%	58%	10%	7%	147,000
	Recent immigrants	8%	35%	17%	40%	129,000
	1980s immigrants	*10%*	*43%*	*18%*	*29%*	65,000
	1990s immigrants with others	*8%*	*32%*	*17%*	*42%*	27,000
	1990s immigrants only	*5%*	*22%*	*16%*	*58%*	37,000
6 or more persons	Canadian-born	5%	44%	33%	18%	12,000
	Earlier immigrants	5%	37%	34%	24%	22,000
	Recent immigrants	1%	14%	23%	61%	43,000
	1980s immigrants	*2%*	*20%*	*28%*	*50%*	16,000
	1990s immigrants with others	*2%*	*13%*	*23%*	*62%*	19,000
	1990s immigrants only	*0%*	*7%*	*15%*	*79%*	9,000

Crowding is related to size of household. The larger the household, the greater the chance that there are more persons than rooms in the dwelling. This pattern is found among households of the Canadian-born as well as immigrants. But there is much less crowding in households of the Canadian-born than in households of recent immigrants, whatever their size.

As shown earlier, households of immigrants who arrived before the 1980s are similar to the households of the Canadian-born in size. They also have accommodation that is similar in size to that of the Canadian-born. This suggests that immigrants form large households and live in relatively crowded conditions for a period after their arrival, so as to keep the cost of accommodation down. But when economic circumstances permit, they split into smaller household units or move to more spacious accommodation. Households also become smaller when children of immigrants become adults and establish their own households.

Forty-three per cent of households have high housing cost in relation to income

Table F.3: Cost of accommodation as a share of household income, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution)

Households	Less than 30%	30% to 50%	50% or more
Canadian-born	72%	16%	11%
Earlier immigrants	73%	16%	11%
Recent immigrants	57%	22%	21%
1980s immigrants	*60%*	*22%*	*18%*
1991-94 immigrants with others	*72%*	*18%*	*10%*
1991-94 immigrants only	*44%*	*25%*	*31%*
All households	69%	17%	13%

More than one half of households (56%) made up exclusively of immigrants who have been in Canada for five years or less spend more than 30 per cent of their income on accommodation. For three in ten of these households (31%) the cost of accommodation even exceeds 50 per cent of income. Of Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households, only just over one-quarter (27%) has housing cost in excess of 30 per cent of income.

Housing costs of more than 30 per cent of income are considered burdensome, and households facing that level of cost as a rule have low incomes. Many households of recently arrived immigrants have low incomes and try to keep the cost of accommodation down by choosing small quarters and making their households large. But often this is not enough to bring housing costs down to less than 30 per cent of income.

Table F.4: Period of construction, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

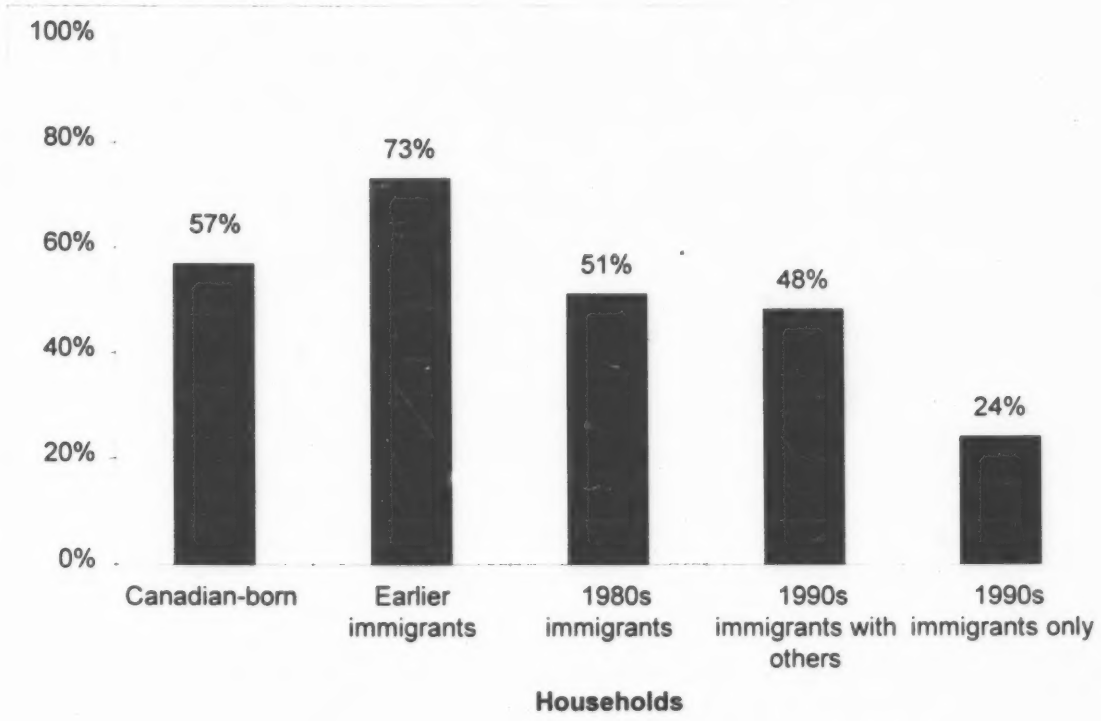
Households	Before 1961	1961-1980	After 1980
Canadian-born	38%	37%	25%
Earlier immigrants	32%	39%	29%
Recent immigrants	22%	47%	31%
1980s immigrants	*23%*	*45%*	*33%*
1990s immigrants with others	*24%*	*45%*	*31%*
1990s immigrants only	*19%*	*52%*	*29%*
All households	32%	40%	28%

The dwellings where households of immigrants who arrived after 1980 live have been more recently built than the houses of the Canadian-born, and the proportion in need of major repair is relatively low. This suggests that, although the cost of housing is clearly a challenge for many recent immigrants, they tend not to resort to sub-standard accommodation.

Table F.5: Quality of housing, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Regular maintenance	Minor repairs	Major repairs
Canadian-born	66%	26%	8%
Earlier immigrants	70%	24%	6%
Recent immigrants	68%	24%	8%
1980s immigrants	67%	25%	8%
1990s immigrants with others	67%	25%	9%
1990s immigrants only	70%	22%	8%
All households	68%	25%	8%

Figure F.1: Households owning their home as a percentage of all households, Toronto Metropolitan Area, 1996



Only one quarter (24%) of households consisting exclusively of immigrants who arrived during 1991-1996 own their home, compared to more than one-half (57%) of households of the Canadian-born and almost three-quarters (73%) of earlier immigrants. The rate of home ownership among joint households of very recent immigrants and others, and households of immigrants who landed during the 1980s is approximately one-half.

Home-ownership is much higher among earlier immigrants than the Canadian-born. This probably reflects the higher average age of earlier immigrants, but it may also point to different choices. It also suggests that the higher frequency of rental tenure among recent immigrant households, and particularly households consisting only of very recent immigrants, is a temporary phenomenon that is a part of the adjustment process.